



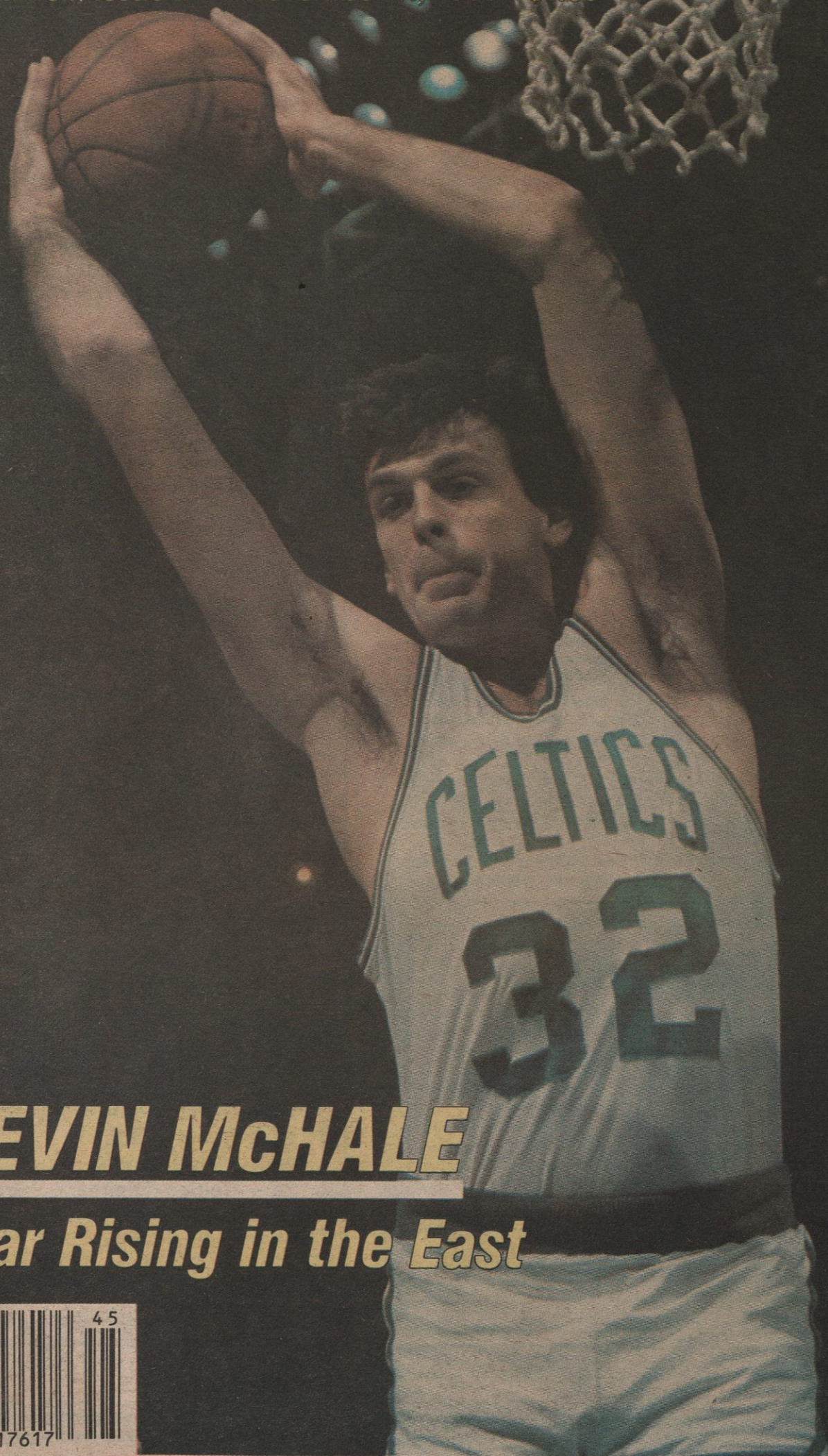
1985-86 NBA Preview



BOSTON CELTICS PRIDE



Volume 1, Issue 2 November 11, 1985 \$1.50



KEVIN McHALE

Star Rising in the East



The Anatomy of a Trade



BOSTON CELTICS PRIDE

What is Celtics Pride?

By Tony Cooper

The Celtics, who have dominated the NBA like no other team in the league's history, have 15 championship banners hanging from the rafters of Boston Garden. And it's a sure bet that a venerable commodity called "Celtics Pride" has played a hefty portion in every one of those titles.

Celtics Pride. Roll that off your tongue a few times. Sounds pretty corny, right? The New York Yankees have been the historical kingpins of major-league baseball and the Montreal Canadiens have won their share of NHL Stanley Cups, but no one talks about Yankee Pride or Canadian Pride.

Maybe it's the Boston Garden's parquet floor. Maybe it's the green shoes, or the green-and-white jersey. Maybe it's having "Celtics" spelled out across your chest. There's just something about being a Celtic that makes a player perform better. Again, it sounds like so much malarkey, but just ask anyone who's ever worn the Boston uniform.

"If you want to laugh, go ahead," says Tom "Satch" Sanders, a former Celtic player and coach. "But what other people make fun of are the things that the Celtics have always believed in. It's a winning formula."

Red Auerbach's name is synonymous with the Celtics—and winning. Auerbach joined the Celts in 1950-51, and summarily launched Boston into an era of success. Be he coach or general manager, Auerbach has always made sure the Celtics were molded into his king of team.

"Red's leadership alone insures the team will be stable," says the recently-retired M.L. Carr. We didn't have to worry about problems other teams have. They don't exist because of Red's philosophy.

"All the tradition is a big part of it, too. The parquet floor, the championship banners, the uniforms themselves. That creates an atmosphere you can't find anywhere else in sports."

"Red has always carefully picked players who care about the team first and personal accomplishments second. There's always a reason for every move he makes. I've seen how he does it. It works."

You want shrewdness? Try this: In 1978, Auerbach knew that a fellow named Larry Bird had no intention of leaving Indiana State after his junior year, but drafted him anyway. After his senior season, Bird was still Celtic chattel, and Auerbach signed him. Today, Bird is probably the best all-around player in the league.

Any one of the 23 NBA teams could've pulled this Bird maneuver. No one did, though. That sort of guile is part of **Celtics Pride**.

The Celtics have always had a knack for finding a specific role on a team in which a given player can flourish, even when it seems said player is near the end of the line. A few years back, Boston picked up Tiny Archibald, who appeared to be scrap-heap material. All Archibald did was become rejuvenated and become a mainstay at point guard for several seasons. Paul Silas joined the Celtics in 1972 under similar conditions, and turned out to be one of the team's bulwarks.

If you want to be Celtic, you have to be willing to embrace a role, fulfill it to the utmost and not deviate from your appointed rounds. Otherwise, you won't be wearing the green sneakers very long. Selflessness might be the key ingredient to **Celtics Pride**.

"Every player on the team has a specific function," Sanders says. "Celtic Pride taught me winning means a lot more than headlines and ovations. It was a bigger thrill to say I played for the Celtics than to say I averaged 35 points a game."

Don Nelson was labelled too slow, too fat, too awkward, too whatever. Yet, in a Celtic uniform, he became one of the most productive players the team has ever had. He is a devout believer in **Celtics pride**.

"Red is the key to it all," says Nelson, currently the Milwaukee Bucks' coach. "I think he sees certain things in players others miss or don't bother looking for. Look at some of the people he picked up late in their careers. He saw dedication in them. He saw they wanted to win."

Even at the expense of personal adulation and lofty statistic. Guess how many NBA scoring champions have been Celtics? NONE.

Celtics pride was really tested in 1983-84, when high-caliber players such as Scott Wedmen, Quinn Buckner and Gerald Henderson weren't getting the kind of playing time of which they're worthy. Sure, they couldn't have been too thrilled with those prospects, but there was no bickering or feuding, instead, Boston went out and won another title.

"This team is unique," Bird says. "Everyone is close and everyone pulls together. We know we're not going to lose as long as we stick together."

Through over three decades and 15 championships, that formula still works. **Celtics Pride**.

VOLUME I, ISSUE 2
NOVEMBER 11, 1985

Cover...

Photographer Steve Lipofsky captures emerging superstar Kevin McHale in action. McHale has matured in every area and is now one of the most effective stars in the NBA.

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BOSTON CELTICS PRIDE



Ask Red Auerbach

But, actually, my original concept was something that they're going to change to, now in my opinion: instead of picking the 7 teams that did not make the playoffs out of a hat, I suggest that we pick the first two teams out of a hat, and then let the other five pick in order of their finish. In other words, I would hate to see the team with the worst record pick seventh; I'd like to see them pick no worse than third. That's the concept.

QUESTION: The 2-3-2 format in the NBA Finals was obviously something that the Celtics were opposed to last year, forcing them to play the tie-breaking fifth game on the road. How do you feel about this?

Thomas McFadden, Brockton, MA

RED'S ANSWER: I'm very much against that. I think that it's all wrong to take something that's worked well for so many years and change it, using the lame excuse that it saves expenses for the media. I think it's just like the World Series and the Super Bowl; you don't need to make big changes for the media. I know they'll cover it in any event.

QUESTIONS: What have been some of the major factors in Kevin McHale's arrival as a great player last year?

Tony Beronio, Hartford, CT

RED'S ANSWER: I think it's a matter of Kevin's innate personality, his pride. I think this was the biggest factor. When he got the big contract, instead of saying, "Well, I got mine", he wanted to show everybody that he was worth it, and he worked harder and played harder to prove that he deserved it, just as Larry Bird had done the year before. My admiration goes to both of them because of it.

QUESTION: How has K.C. Jones evolved from a defensive ace to the respected coach of a championship team?

Sherri Kennedy, Boston, MA

RED'S ANSWER: Don't forget now that you're talking about development through 25 years or more. K.C., in his own quiet way, listens and learns every day, whether it's from me or from other coaches or from the normal acquisition of knowledge in life. He realizes that defense is so important, but you don't win solely on defense; somebody's got to put the ball in the hole. K.C.'s learned not to rely exclusively on his own strengths as a player when coaching, and that's one of his greatest skills as a coach. The name of the game in coaching is adjustment, and he's adjusted very well.

EDITORS NOTE: "Ask Red Auerbach" is a regular feature of Celtics Pride. If you have a question for Red, please send it to Celtics Pride, 49 Locust Avenue, New Canaan, Connecticut 06840. Red will answer as many as possible in each issue.

QUESTION: I've had a great deal of trouble getting Celtic's tickets over the past few seasons. How can it be done?

Robert Schneider, Fall River, MA

RED'S ANSWER: It's very difficult to get tickets because we're fortunate enough to be an attraction that people want to see. However, rather than sell out the building entirely on season tickets, we do keep over 2,000 out for public sale for every game. I will admit that some of those are obstructed view, but we can't help that; that's the structure of the building we play in. But we're fighting continually not to give up any of these seats, but to have them so that some of the young people can still see the games.

QUESTION: Did you ever play basketball?
Joe Waag, Providence, R.I.

RED'S ANSWER: Sure. I played high school ball in New York City, I played Junior College ball and I played college ball at George Washington University. As a matter of fact, I was the high scorer in college; I had a strong average of about 8.6 points a game. But we had a great schedule; we had a great ballclub. There was no pro ball at the time I graduated, but there was a little semi-pro, and I played some of that.

QUESTION: Is it necessary for an NBA coach to have been a former player?

Patrick Stevens, Boston, MA

RED'S ANSWER: I would think so. I would think it has some advantages in that you would have a better appreciation of what was expected of players out there and you would have a better feel. I think the caliber of your ability is not important. It's the same thing in all coaching: there are a lot of great coaches in all sports who were not great players. Often, when you're a great player, you feel that the world owes you a living and there's a tendency to think that everybody can do what you did, so you lose your patience. As a result, you become a coach without patience, rather than a teacher who can help guys improve their skills.

QUESTION: The NBA instituted last year a lottery whereby the worst seven teams draw lots to determine the order in which they draft college players. How do you feel about the lottery concept and how would you like to see it improved?

Barry Jackson, Framingham, MA

RED'S ANSWER: Well, the lottery concept I'm all in favor of because it was my idea in the first place.

THE CELTICS HAVE A NEW NUMBER

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BOSTON CELTICS PRIDE

Superstar Bird Is Battling Back Injury

Larry Bird has earned nineteen individual and team honors since storming into the National Basketball Association six seasons ago in 1979-80. He has won Most Valuable Player honors, back-to-back, the first forward in the league ever to accomplish that feat.

In 1983-84 he won an unprecedented double, leading the Celtics to the franchise's fifteenth professional title and winning Playoff and Regular Season Most Valuable Award recognition.

Throughout the honors, the dynamic statistical leap in scoring last season (from 24.2ppg in '83-'84 to 28.7 ppg in '84-'85), the earned adulation from the Garden faithful, the player has refused to allow past accomplishments crown out his inner conviction that he has to work to earn his salary.

"I just go out there and play as hard as I possibly can," he has characteristically told reporters. This whether he has scored 60, 53, or triple double.

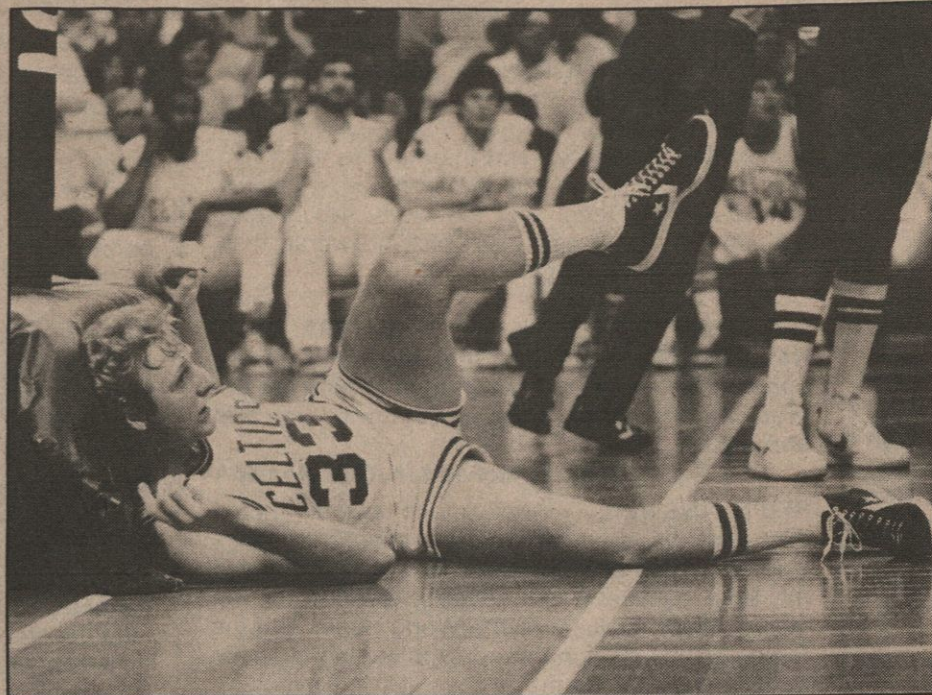
Yet there is steel-like evidence that the indestructible will of the Hoosier is being seriously challenged. Bird has suffered at least the thirteenth injury of his playing career in Pre-Season; his back, a chronic problem throughout his career, has prevented him from playing most of the preliminary season. Under the supervision of Dr. Thomas Silva, the team's doctor, Dr. Robert Leach, orthopedics specialist, and Trainer Ray Melchiorre, Bird has played sparingly in practice and confined his conditioning to stationary bicycling, running, and stretching.

Coach K.C. Jones recalled Bird complaining of the injury at a golf tournament the two played at in Indiana in August. "He mentioned it," stated Jones. "At that time I didn't think much about it."

"But since he has missed some games and practices, there is reason for concern, although we have the highest hopes that he'll be ready."

"I am not the doctor. But we have been advised that running without contact was the best treatment, which is why Larry went back to Boston instead of completing the pre-season road trip."

Bird played his pre-season high of 37 minutes in the team's opening contest against Philadelphia, October 4th at Boston Garden. He scored 30 points with 17 rebounds in that game. He reduced his time to 23 minutes against Los Angeles two nights later, in Hartford. Before the latter game he received treatment



Playing with pain is nothing new to Larry.

and since that ballgame he has not played more than a quarter.

Bird has played 566 of a possible 580 professional games—regular season and playoffs—in his career. The man's durability has as its foundation a competitive will. The body has been historically, a figuratively and literally different matter.

As a sophomore in high school at Springs Valley (French Lick, IN) in the 1971-72 season, Bird fractured an ankle. Recovering, he redoubled his practice time and often would practice hours into the night after Springs Valley had completed formal sessions.

Bird's collegiate career at Indiana State was essentially a clean slate. But there was a knee injury after the season ended, and in a famous and infamous softball game, Larry fractured his right index finger (the index finger is the aiming finger for the right handed shooter) Never properly set, or healed, the finger has remained vulnerable.

Bird played 217 consecutive regular season games before a Harvey Catchings elbow broke his jaw on February 28 of the 1981-82 season. In the 1980-81 championship season, he played despite suffering a severe thigh contusion in a collision with Darryl Dawkins, then of the Philadelphia 76ers at mid-season. He claimed later that "the thigh never felt right throughout the rest of that season."

In 1982-83, the year the forward set his first Celtic scoring record (53), Bird struggled with a repeatedly twisted ankle in March. He missed three games during the regular season; in the unhappy four-game

playoff loss to Milwaukee, a momentum-builder for the Bucks was Bird's absence in Game 2 of that series. Bird was actually floored by a severe influenza attack and was laid up for the 106-102 loss in Boston.

A strained back forced some time off late in the 1983-84 championship year but this was after the regular season title had been secured. Bird twisted and sprained an ankle in Game 4 of the Washington 1st round playoff series that season. The Celtics clinched that round in that contest and Bird, helped by the layoff

between that series and the following 7-game set against the Knicks, recovered sufficiently and did not miss any games.

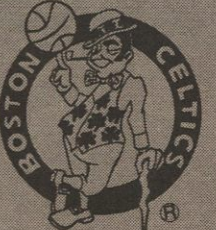
Last year Bird played in 80 games, still received treatment on his back periodically, and apparently the toll of defending the '83-84 championship wore on the Captain. In the playoffs, he missed Game 3 of the Cleveland series and despite his denials, his play was affected throughout the remainder of the playoffs by his injured right elbow. Trailing a play in the Philadelphia series in Game 4, he slightly dislocated a finger.

"As much as anything, the injury to my elbow disrupted my rhythm. It was not the injury itself," Larry declared later. Rest apparently has helped that problem and surgery, discussed among Bird, General Manager Jan Volk, and President of the Celtics, Red Auerbach, was not performed.

Now the back. K.C. Jones has disclosed in the give-and-take of interviews that there might be a problem with a disc. The player doesn't state much for publication. Yet he has worn icebags on his back through several practice sessions. He has been stiff and has experienced pain when attempting to play, even during practice drills.

Bird played last in a Pre-Season contest in Indiana. "He wouldn't have been on this trip at all if it weren't for the stop in Indiana," K.C. Jones stated afterward. "He just felt he has an obligation to play in front of the people there."

The long-range prognostication is to reduce Larry's workload during the regular season to about 30 minutes per contest, down from 39 last year, and 38 lifetime.

 1985-86 BOSTON CELTICS' ROSTER							
No.	Name	Pos.	Hgt.	Wgt.	Birthdate	College	Years Pro
44	Danny Ainge	G	6-5	185	3/17/59	Brigham Young '81	4
33	Larry Bird	F	6-9	220	12/7/56	Indiana State '79	6
34	Rick Carlisle	G	6-5	207	10/27/59	Virginia '84	1
3	Dennis Johnson	G	6-4	202	9/18/54	Pepperdine '76	9
50	Greg Kite	C	6-11	250	8/5/61	Brigham Young '83	2
32	Kevin McHale	F-C	6-10	225	12/19/57	Minnesota '80	5
00	Robert Parish	C	7-½	230	8/30/53	Centenary '76	9
12	Jerry Sichting	G	6-1½	180	11/29/56	Purdue '79	5
11	Sam Vincent	G	6-2	185	5/18/63	Michigan State '85	R-1 (20)
5	Bill Walton	C	6-11	235	11/5/52	UCLA '74	11
8	Scott Wedman	F	6-7	220	7/29/52	Colorado '74	11
35	Sly Williams	F	6-7	215	1/26/58	Rhode Island '80	6
Head Coach:		K. C. Jones		San Francisco '56			
Assistant Coaches:		Jim Rodgers		Iowa '65			
		Chris Ford		Villanova '72			
Scouts:		Ed Badger		Iowa '53			
		M.L. Carr		Guilford '73			
		Rick Weitzman		Northeastern '67			
Trainer:		Ray Melchiorre		Bethel College '70			



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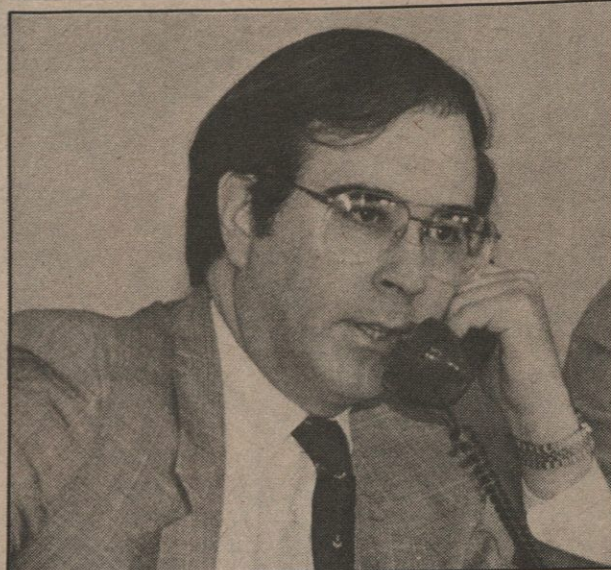
Put our strength to work for you.



BANK OF BOSTON

Innerview

JAN VOLK



Jan Volk: very comfortable in his role.

Jan Volk was named the General Manager of the Boston Celtics on July 10, 1984, an announcement that merely served as public confirmation that he had been handling the day-to-day business affairs of the team for several years previous. A man who literally grew up within the Celtics' family, he has experienced the workings of the business at every level during his 14 years with the team. A graduate of Colby College and Columbia Law School, he is considered one of the most knowledgeable and capable of the NBA's executives, and his understanding of the league's new and innovative salary cap policy, as well as his astute handling of the negotiation of television, radio and player contracts, has made him among the most respected as well.

CELTICS PRIDE: You took over the job as General Manager of the Celtics about a year ago. Is the job what you expected?

VOLK: I suppose if I had come here to the Celtics from another ball club, I might have found things that were surprising, but, having really grown up professionally within this organization and having spent the last 14 years here, there's really little that can surprise me. Obviously, there will be circumstances, no matter how long I'm here, that will surprise me since this is a business in infinite variables; nonetheless, being in the Celtics' organization as long as I have been, I find myself very comfortable.

CELTICS PRIDE: Has it been difficult to follow the act of Red Auerbach? How are the roles of the two of you distinct?

VOLK: If I had been brought into this organization specifically to take Red's spot, I'm sure that would have been a very difficult thing for me to do. I suppose there might have been an inclination on my part to establish my own identity and try to create a name for myself, and maybe allay concerns and fears that people might have about an outsider coming in. But that wasn't the case; having been here as long as I have been and having been eased into the position, I have found that it has been very easy to assume the role officially. I've been involved in four championships in fourteen years, so I feel that I'm very much a part of the tradition that in some ways smothered others. I view that involvement and that tradition not as a detriment, but rather as a benefit, and one that I can be proud to be associated with and contribute to.

Much has been made of Red's "retirement" as such without really getting to the crux of what we have here. What we do have is Red's role really changing. He's retired from the day-to-day operation of the organization; that is left in my hands and in those of the people who are here and who have done the job for many years. Red has gradually relinquished those jobs for a few years now to other members of the organization. On the other hand, this leaves him an opportunity to become even more involved in the area of player evaluation, the area in which he's a renowned authority whose expertise is probably unparalleled. We utilize that expertise all the time. I think the best way to clarify his role and my role in the case of player acquisition is to consider us a committee, consisting of Red, K.C., Jimmy Rodgers and myself. Red is really the chairman of that committee, and we will reach results, or conclusions, that I will implement. We will make decisions as a group, with Red's input being very significant in those discussions, and I'll go out and implement what we've decided. Conversely, I may come back to

the "committee" and make suggestions based on conversations that I've had with other General Managers, suggestions that other opportunities may be there that we may have to consider. While on the one hand the "committee" may initiate player action and may in fact give me a mission, it also serves as a reactionary function, responding to things that I may learn from conversations I've had, and in that way we really cover everything among all of us.

CELTICS PRIDE: You have rearranged the Celtics quite a bit this summer. Is the club now exactly the way you want it or is more fine-tuning necessary?

VOLK: I feel comfortable with what we've done. It's important to realize that we've accomplished virtually everything we set out to do. When K.C., Jimmy, Red and myself sat down this summer and went over what we thought had to be done, we outlined the various things that we thought should be done, and we've accomplished everything. From Bill Walton through Jerry Sichting, we have brought together the people that we wanted for this team for this season. So, unless things change in some unforeseen way, we feel very comfortable.

CELTICS PRIDE: What do you find most satisfying about your job?

VOLK: In my earlier years with the team, when I was serving in a different capacity, I used to say that I knew I was doing a good job if nobody knew who I was. But, either that's changed or I was wrong. In the role in which I was functioning, I was out there trying to prevent problems before they happened.

I think the normal work-ethic values are very important to me. Often, the things that are needed to be done get done without any fanfare, and yet those in many cases can be the most satisfying. There are a number of things that I've done that I feel very proud of that no one will ever see, and that may give me the most satisfaction because I know that they may have been the most creative and most beneficial to the ball club, more so than some of the things that were more readily apparent.

For everybody who works here in this organization, there is a more than the normal amount of pride in doing one's job, because of the nature of the business. If you're involved with a professional team, there is not simply the normal nine-to-five workday. There are so many more

things that are asked of you, there are so many more things that you can take away with you also. The team's success -- and we all hope for success -- gives you a vicarious sense of accomplishment. You're not out there on the floor putting points on the board, but you've done what you can do to make that situation the very best possible one for the players and for the fans, and that's much of the reward of the job.

CELTICS PRIDE: What directions are you hoping to take with the 1986 first round pick (from the Seattle Supersonics) that the Celtics are holding?

VOLK: It's much too early to be making those judgments. We don't have any idea what will be available. We feel that this past summer we made the moves that have rounded this particular team out, so we will wait and see how the reformulation of the team works. There are several directions we can take with the choice, but it will depend on where the pick falls.

CELTICS PRIDE: What measures will you need to take to ensure a smooth transition to the post-Larry Bird era of the Boston Celtics?

VOLK: There's a fine line between maximizing your present opportunity and insuring for the future. Most teams are not in the situation we're in. Most teams are constantly in the position of trying to improve themselves over a period of time. Realistically, most teams do not go into the NBA season thinking that they should be in the finals and that they have a shot at the championship. There are a few clubs, that think that way, and we're fortunate enough to be one of them. The other teams not in that situation are trying to build for the future and sometimes will sacrifice the short term for the long term. We want to do both: we want to be successful now and we want to be successful in the future. That's why we acquired the pick that we did, the Seattle pick, and at the same time that's why we give up our other '86 first-round pick to obtain Bill Walton. So we've struck a balance between the present and the future. There's no way to specifically ensure that there will be a smooth transition when Larry Bird retires -- and I hope that will be a long time from now -- but we are not unmindful of that.

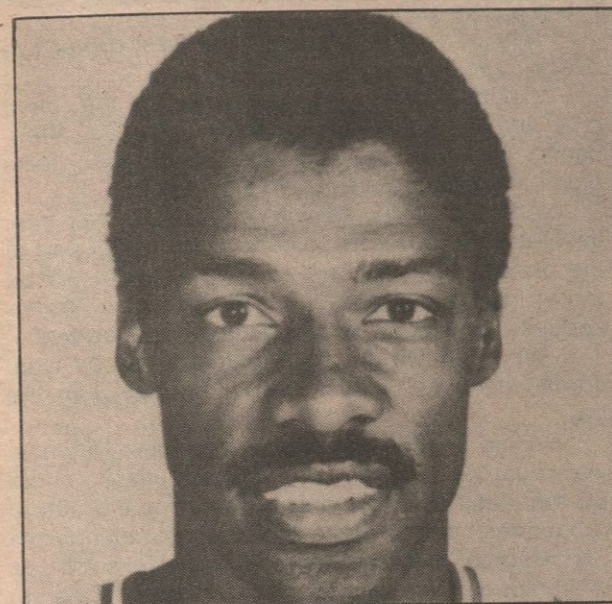
We hope to be as successful in the immediate future while keeping the future as bright as possible.

CELTICS PRIDE: Do you find it difficult to juggle your personal life with the long hours you need to work?

VOLK: Interestingly enough, if you look at all the people who work here in this organization, almost everybody who works here has for the most part worked only here. We've all been acclimated and conditioned to working those long hours, because the job reward is more complex than just completing a simple task. It all fits together; everybody here has a sense of the big picture, and we all feel that we've been a part of accomplishing something.

For myself, there have certainly been times when I would rather be doing something else -- we all feel that -- but because of the circumstances the job demands that you put the Celtics requirements first. I'm fortunate that my wife and kids are terrific and understanding, and sometimes they have to be understanding, but it's a way of life for us here. Working here is not viewed as simply a job; it's a way of life, and you can devote the time to your way of life without feeling like you're giving up something.

How do the other NBA teams stack up?



Dr. J: not going backward.

By Tony Cooper

Another season of NBA basketball is upon us. And, as usual, there are questions, questions and more questions to be answered.

Will the Lakers be the first team to win back-to-back titles since the Celtics did it in 1969? Can the Celtics, spurred by the acquisitions of Bill Walton, Jerry Sichting and Sam Vincent, bring the championship back to Boston? Will Patrick Ewing, the league's top draftee, bring the Knicks back from the Atlantic Division subway to contention? Is Ewing indeed a 1985 version of Bill Russell?

Will Wayman Tisdale, the league's second overall pick, bring glory days to the Indiana Pacers? Will some of the other big men who were first-rounders, Joe Kleine, Jon Koncak and Blair Rasmussen, be serviceable?

There are still more: Have the Dallas Mavericks, who have lamented over their lack of a center for several seasons, finally picked up the necessary ingredients to move into the NBA's elite neighborhood? What will the Denver Nuggets do without Dan Issel? Will the Cleveland Cavaliers, who dogged the Celtics in the playoffs last year, pick up where they left off last season?

Will Michael Jordan continue his role as one of the NBA's leading men? How much mileage do Julius Erving, Moses Malone and Bobby Jones have left? How will Matt Guokas do in his first NBA head coaching job? Can George Gervin and Artis Gilmore make the San Antonio Spurs bounce back from a sub-par season?

Will the Kings find happiness in Sacramento? Will Joe Barry Carroll find happiness in Oakland?

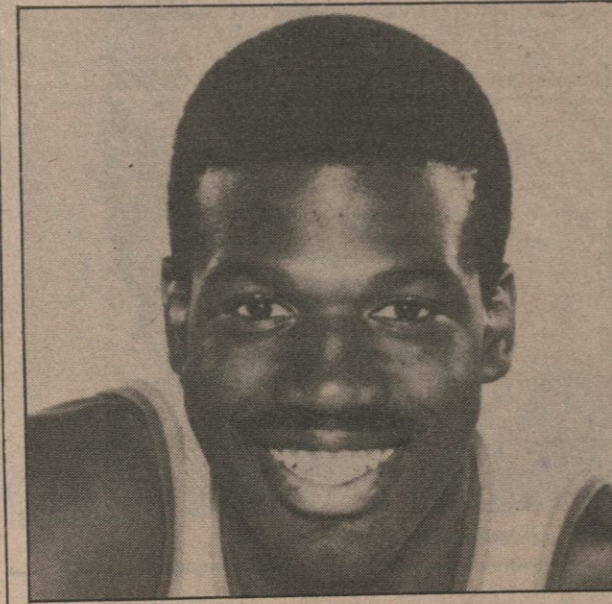
Questions, questions and more questions. The answers to those and more will unfold at NBA arenas everywhere -- soon.

ATLANTIC DIVISION

PHILADELPHIA 76ers -- The Sixers are a team in a state of flux. Julius Erving and Bobby Jones are reaching the end of the line, and Moses Malone showed signs of wear and tear last season.

But hold the sympathy cards. Philly still has plenty of weaponry, and that the Sixers will be breaking in a rookie head coach in Matt Guokas shouldn't be much of a negative factor. The Sixers still have the stuff to rub elbows with the league's uppercrust.

"I don't anticipate us going backward," Erving



Bernard King: won't be back soon.

says. "We can't afford to, and I don't have time."

Erving averaged 20 points and 5.3 rebounds a game, so he's not scrap heap material yet. Malone gave the Sixers 24.6 points and 13.1 boards.

Six-nine Terry Catledge, a beefy power forward out of South Alabama, was the Sixers' top draft choice. He could be a starter in the near future.

Another forward of considerable bulk is Charles Barkley. Excess weight or no, Barkley averaged 14. points and 8.6 rebounds, and figures to get better.

Back-up center/forward Clemon Johnson is a capable reserve at either position.

Philadelphia is strong at guard. Andrew Toney (17.8 points) and Maurice Cheeks (13.1 points, 6.4 assists) are sound starters. Sedale Threatt came from nowhere to emerge as a quality sub, something Clint Richardson has been for years.

Guokas, a former Sixer and Chicago Bull player, has several years of experience as an assistant. How will he do as a head man?

"I'll work as hard as I can and hope it rubs off," Guokas says. "It takes organization, talented players, the right attitude and everybody working toward the same goal."

Philadelphia's first goal is unseating the Celtics from the Atlantic penthouse.

NEW YORK KNICKS -- There's only one way to describe last season for the Knicks.

A disaster.

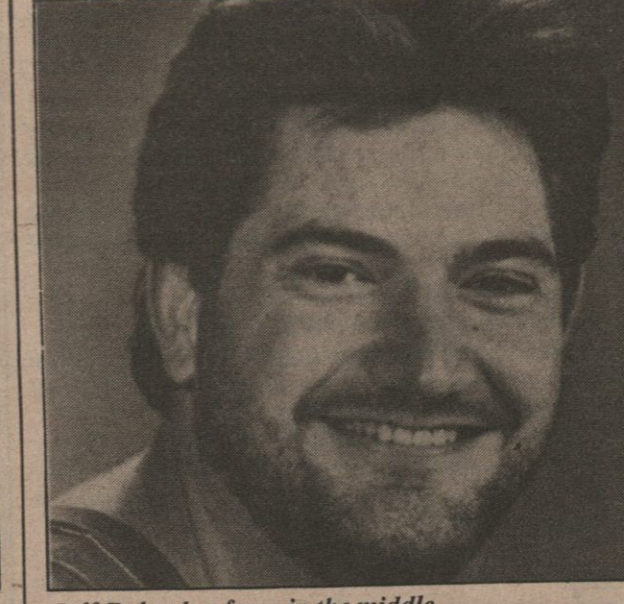
New York was dead last in the Atlantic, light games behind everyone with a 24-58 record. Marcus Welby, Dr. Kildare or Trapper John, M.D. should have been coaching this team. The Knicks lost a league record 329 man-games to injury.

"I have never, in all my years of coaching, seen anything like last year," Coach Hubie Brown says. "It was mind-boggling."

The Knicks are looking for instant help from a mind-boggling rookie center-- Patrick Ewing. It is hoped Ewing can make the Knicks a power again. Only New York City mayor Ed Koch has higher expectations of him.

"Patrick is one of the few players who has capabilities of coming into the league and being a force as a rookie," Celtic President Red Auerbach says. "Sure, his game needs refinement here and there, but all the basics are there. Believe me, I see an awful lot of Bill Russell in Ewing. He's that impressive."

A front line featuring Ewing and Bill Cartwright gives the Knicks impressive size. Cartwright, the



Jeff Ruland: a force in the middle.

one-time starting center, missed every game with a fractured foot. He'll be moved to forward now that Ewing is around.

Skinny Louis Orr and rough-and-tumble Pat Cummings (15.8 points a game) will also see plenty of action at forward. They'll try to hold the fort until stellar Bernard King returns. King ripped up his knee in March and won't return until mid-season. King was averaging 32.9 points when he was hurt.

New York was hurting at guard a year ago. Neither Trent Tucker, Rory Sparrow or Darrell Walker was particularly outstanding. That trio will receive the bulk of backcourt playing time once again.

And Ewing will receive the bulk of the attention in New York.

WASHINGTON BULLETS -- Gene Shue's Bullets will have a new look this season. Gone are forward Greg Ballard (to Golden State) and Bruise Brother Rick Mahorn (to Detroit). New on the Bullet scene are veteran forward Dan Roundfield, who was acquired for Mahorn, and first-round pick Kenny Green.

Another new Bullet is 7-7, 200-pound center Manute Bol, from Sudan and the University of Bridgeport. No one is saying Bol is on par with Patrick Ewing-- the Bullets just hope he doesn't lose any weight.

"Bol isn't a sure thing," general manager Bob Ferry says. "If he picks up weight he will be very interesting."

Unlike Bol, Roundfield is a proven performer. The 6-8 center Michigan veteran didn't pan out with Detroit, but is well-respected.

"This team is more suitable for my style of play," Roundfield says. "I can play defense and I'm a great offensive rebounder, and can be a good offensive rebounder when given the opportunity."

Washington hopes frontcourter Jeff Ruland has the opportunity to play 82 games. An elbow injury limited Ruland to 37 games last year, and he averaged 18.9 points and 11.1 rebounds. Ruland will move from forward to center this season. Bol will be around for support.

Cliff Robinson (16.7 points, 9.1 rebs) is a good scorer, as is Green, a Wake Forest product. The Bullets expect Green to step in and contribute right away.

Grey-haired Tom McMillen, young Darren Daye and Charles Jones give the Bullets three capable reserves.

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BOSTON CELTICS PRIDE

NBA Preview, from page 7

McMillen will see some work at center, too. Washington is well-stocked at guard. Gus Williams (20.0 points and 7.7 assists) Frank Johnson and Jeff Malone (18.9) will get the bulk of the action.

NEW JERSEY NETS - Former Laker assistant coach Dave Wohl gets his first NBA head coaching job, and close to home, too. He's from East Brunswick, N.J.

"Most new coaches get a team that's rebuilding," Wohl says. "That's not true here. The Nets have talent."

Yes, but the Nets have been in the middle ground of the NBA for the past several seasons. Good enough to make the playoffs, but never good enough to be a factor in the playoffs. New Jersey was 42-40 last season.

The Nets are still waiting for 6-11 center Darryl Dawkins to assert himself for a prolonged period of time. He missed 43 games with a knee injury, averaging 13.5 points.

Wohl says it's time for Dawkins to produce. Today.

"I don't want to use potential with him anymore," Wohl says. "I want us to progress. We want him to progress to be a terrific center for us."

It may be a little late for that, since Dawkins has been around for a while. Actually, Mike Gminski (12.8, 7.8 rebounds) played better in the middle, even when Dawkins was healthy.

Mike O'Koren (10.2), Albert King (12.8), and the splendid Buck Williams (18.2, 12.3) are the protagonists at forward. Jeff Turner and the recycled Mickey Johnson are also on the roster.

Michael Ray Richardson (20.1 points, 8.2 assists and a league-best 2.96 steals) and Otis Birdsong (20.6) are quite capable guards, although Richardson is still inconsistent. Darwin Cook and Kelvin Ransey have been known to play well in the backcourt on occasion.

Injuries were a problem to the Nets last year. Dawkins, King, Birdsong and others missed considerable time with assorted aches and pains.

CENTRAL DIVISION

MILWAUKEE BUCKS - Ex-Celtic Don Nelson was counting on having Joe Barry Carroll as his starting center. Unfortunately for the Bucks and Nelson, Carroll returned to his native Golden State Warriors after spending a year in Italy.

So, it'll be another year of Alton Lister, Paul Mokeski and Randy Breuer at center. Those three couldn't have been too bad-- the Bucks won the Central title with them.

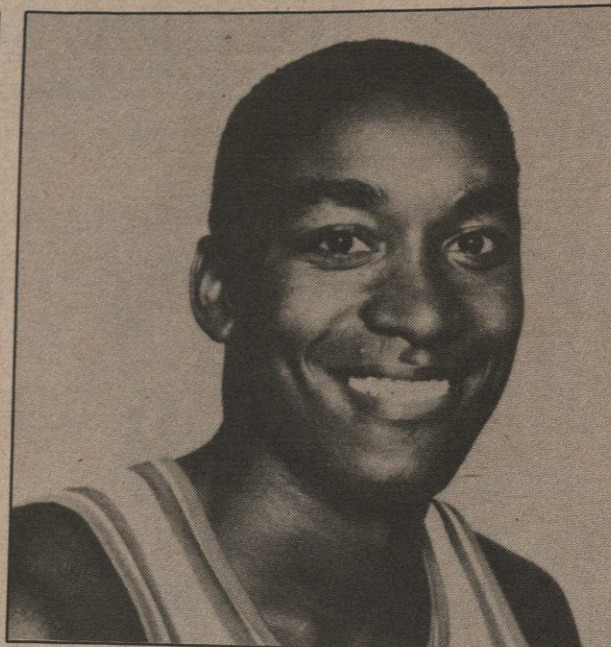
Forward Terry Cummings and guard Sidney Moncrief were hefty contributors in the Bucks' title season. Cummings averaged 23.6 points and 9.1 rebounds, while Moncrief, who is right up there with Larry Bird when it comes to the league's most complete players, knocked in 21.7 points.

Paul Pressey (16.1, 5.3, 6.7 assists) has the makings of a star guard, but could see loads of action at small forward. Craig Hodges and Ricky Pierce, a pair of Clipper rejects, did surprisingly well in Milwaukee's backcourt.

The Bucks are high on first-round pick Jerry Reynolds, a 6-8 swingman from Louisiana State. Nelson calls Reynolds "a bigger Paul Pressey."

DETROIT PISTONS - After years of being NBA doormats, the Pistons have emerged as a rather respectable team. Now the Pistons are attempting to make another leap-- into the company of teams like the Celtics and Lakers.

And Chuck Daly's squad has the goods to do it. In fifth-year guard Isiah Thomas, Detroit has one of the league's plums. Thomas averaged 21.2 points, a league-record 13.2 assists a night and 2.31



Isiah Thomas: He's entertainment!

steals.

Center Bill Laimbeer (17.5 points and 12.5 rebounds) is one of the toughest and best at his position around. Kelly Tripucka (19.1), was hobbled by an ankle injury a year ago. When healthy, the small forward is capable of putting in 25 points a game.

John Long (14.6) and Vinnie Johnson (12.8) will battle for the off-guard job. Both are sound players.

The Pistons felt they were lacking another big man, and believe they've solved that problem with acquisition of Rick Mahorn from Washington, for Dan Roundfield. Mahorn should take over at center, with Laimbeer moving to power forward. No one, but no one will bang bodies with the zest of those two.

Veteran holdovers Earl Cureton (who can be an asset if used properly), Terry Tyler (a smart and helpful reserve), Tony Campbell and Kent Benson will fight for playing time.

Detroit's first-round pick is Joe Dumars, a shooting guard from McNeese State. It's doubtful he'll break into the guard rotation this season.

CLEVELAND CAVALIERS - Who are the real Cavaliers, the outfit that began in 1984-85 with a 2-19 record, or the guys who won 34 of their last 61 games?

"We were playing everyone tough by the end of the year," Coach George Karl says.

The Celtics would believe that. Cleveland was ousted by the Celts in four games in the opening round of the playoffs, but Cleveland went down fighting.

Cleveland has a good nucleus in power forward Roy Hinson (15.8, 6.3), forward Phil Hubbard and guards World Free and John Bagley. Bagley, the pudgy passer from Boston College, averaged 9.9 points and was fifth in the league with 8.6 assists.

"Bagley is the key," Karl says. "By the end of the year, I think he was one of the best guards in the NBA."

Veteran Johnny Davis and Ennis Whatley, acquired from Chicago, are the backup guards. Davis in one of the quickest players in the league.

Save Hinson and Hubbard, the Cavs are shaky in the frontcourt. Number-one pick Melvin Turpin battled weight all season long and was disappointing. Lonnie Shelton missed much time with injury and Mark West is a journeyman. Ben Poquette was doing fine until a injury shot him down. Then there's high-leaping Edgar Jones, who was also hurt much of the year.

CHICAGO BULLS - The Bulls had another lackluster season, but that was made tolerable by

one player: Michael Jordan.

Jordan turned out to be everything as advertised-- and then some. All he did was average 28.2 points (third best in the league) 6.6 rebounds and 5.9 assists a game.

Larry Bird called Jordan, "The best player I've ever played against."

Jordan instantly became one of the most charismatic figures ever to hit the NBA. Bull attendance increased 87 percent-- and those folks didn't pay to see Jawann Oldham, either.

New Coach Stan Albeck, who came over from the Nets, wants Jordan to be an even bigger part of the offense. Quintin Dailey (16.0 a game) will be the off guard, Jordan will handle the point. Newly-acquired Kyle Macy will see plenty of light as well.

"When you've got someone who can do what Jordan can do," Albeck says. "you get him the ball."

Rookie Charles Oakley, out of Virginia Union, is well-regarded for his ability to pluck missed shots off the glass. Chicago hopes Oakley is the strong rebounder it needs. Gene Banks was acquired from San Antonio for Steve Johnson, and Banks will see much action at forward. Banks will back up Orlando Woolridge (22.9), who appears to be star material.

David Greenwood, Rod Higgins and Sidney Green will have to battle for minutes, if not their spots on the roster.

Dave Corzine (8.5, 5.2) is the main center, with Caldwell Jones and Oldham filling it. This could be the Bulls' sore spot.

INDIANA PACERS - Wayman Tisdale was the people's choice in Indiana. It seemed as if every Pacer fan wanted Tisdale on the team, since Patrick Ewing wasn't to be had. And Pacer management obliged by making Tisdale the league's second overall draftee.

Tisdale (25.2, 10.2 at Oklahoma last year) is ticketed for an immediate starting position at forward. He joins Clark Kellogg (18.6, 9.4), Herb Williams (18.3, 8.5) and center Steve Stipanovich (13.7, 7.5) to give the Pacers four solid, young frontcourt. Coach George Irvine will have to find sufficient playing time for all of them.

Vern Fleming (14.1) and Jim Thomas (11.1) are back at guard, but the Pacers traded Jerry Sichting to the Celtics. However, Indy picked up Quinn Buckner from Boston, and he could wind up starting.

ATLANTA HAWKS - The Hawks have to be one of the few, if not the only, teams in NBA history to have three 7-footers on their roster. Kevin Willis and Tree Rollins will be joined by SMU's Jon Koncak, the fifth player picked in the draft. Throw in 6-10 Scott Hastings, and the Hawks have more than a few guys willing to do the bump anytime. Then there are Cliff Levingston and Antoine Carr.

In Dominique Wilkins (27.4), Atlanta has one of the flashiest small forwards around. Wilkins also played some big guard a year ago, with mixed results. However, with all the forwards here, Coach Fratello may have no recourse but to put Wilkins at guard on a full-time basis, or trade someone.

Eddie Johnson (16.3), Glenn Rivers and Randy Wittman are capable guards, but Wittman is injury-prone. Another body here wouldn't hurt the Hawks.

MIDWEST DIVISION

HOUSTON ROCKET - There were some that thought the Ralph Sampson/Akeem Olajuwon frontcourt union wouldn't work.

Wrong. Sampson averaged 22.6 points, 10.4 rebounds and more than 2 blocks a night. Olajuwon, already a premier NBA pivot, was at 20.6, 11.9 and 2.7. Not a bad combine.

"I knew it could be done," Sampson says. "I knew people thought I wouldn't be able to do the

job at forward. Personally, I never had any doubts. None at all."

But Rocket Coach Bill Fitch had plenty of doubts about Houston's backcourt. That's why he made Tulsa guard Steve Harris the team's first-round pick. Harris averaged 23.6 as a senior and is regarded as an excellent outside shooter. The Rockets didn't have a single guy last year who could consistently stick it from the outside.

"Harris has the kind of shot that not only goes in," Fitch says, "it looks pretty going in."

Allen Leavell, Lewis Lloyd, Mitchell Wiggins and John Lucas are the holdover guards. Lloyd can also play forward.

Olajuwon wasn't the only rookie to make an impact on Texas last year. Rodney McCray stepped in and immediately grabbed a starting job. McCray averaged 14.4 points and is considered a defensive stopper.

Robert Reid, Jim Petersen and others are in the forward picture.

DALLAS MAVERICKS - The Mavericks went international in the June draft.

Dallas selected Detlef Schrempf and Uwe Blab, a pair of West Germans, and center Bill Wennington, a Canadian. Coach Dick Motta is looking for small forward Schrempf and either Blab or Wennington to fill in the remaining holes on the team. Dallas still doesn't have a legit center, so it's critical for Blab or Wennington to come through. They will have to fight off veterans Kurt Nimphius and Wallace Bryant, who happens to have been born in Spain, adding to the foreign flair in Dallas.

Elsewhere, the Mavs are set. Forwards Mark Aguirre (25.7 points), Jay Vincent (18.2, 8.9) and Sam Perkins (11.0, 7.4) and guards Rolando Blackman (19.7) and Brad Davis (10.1, 5.1 assists). Derek Harper backed up Davis last year, but it's conceivable Schrempf could see some time at point guard.

"We have several good perimeter players," Motta says. "If either Wennington or Blab come through, we're going to have a nice team."

DENVER NUGGETS - Oh, the Nuggets still like to run-and-gun, but they do it with at least a semblance of defense these days.

The Kiki Vandeweghe deal, which saw him go to Portland for center Wayne Cooper, guard Fat Lever, forward Calvin Natt and draft picks, was a stroke of genius on Denver's part. Not only did the Nuggets not miss a beat offensively, they became much stonger on "D".

Natt averaged 23.3 points and 7.8 rebounds, despite being hobbled by a lame knee. Fellow forward Alex English dropped in 27.9 ppg and was hit by a broken thumb during the playoffs against the Lakers. Injuries to Natt and English wrecked whatever chances Denver had of upending LA.

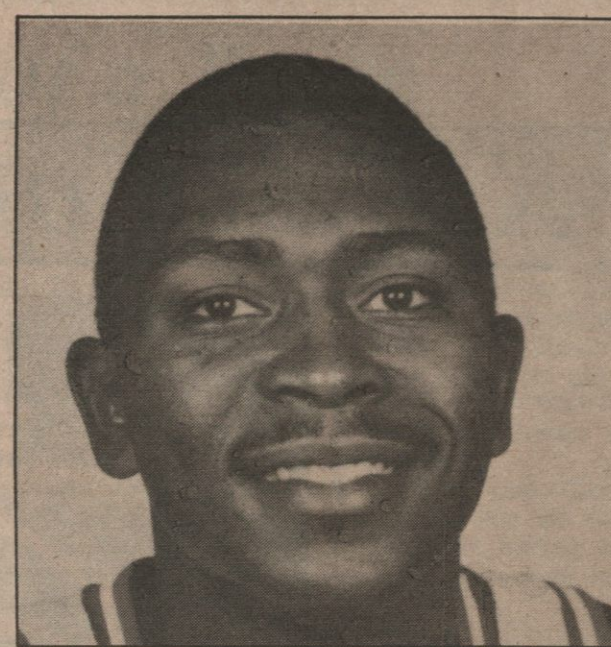
The Nuggets hope Natt and English can bounce back, and that Cooper (12.1, 7.9) can produce again. However, the Nuggets will miss Dan Issel, who has retired. Center Blair Rasmussen, the first-round pick will be expected to pick up the slack. Danny Schayes is also available.

Lever (12.8, 7.5 assists), T.R. Dunn, Bill Hanzlik and Mike Evans are all capable guards, but there's nary an outside shooter in the bunch. That's ironic, considering Denver led the NBA in scoring.

UTAH JAZZ - Utah Coach/General Manager Frank Layden is the funniest man in the NBA. But last season wasn't totally comical for the Jazz.

Leading scorer Adrian Dantley missed 27 games with injuries and John Drew had a recurrence of his personal problems and played just 19 games.

Still, the Jazz managed to forge a 41-41 record and upset the Houston Rockets in the opening round of the playoffs.



Mark Aguirre: All-Star material.

Dantley is back (with a contract extension) and Drew is in limbo. But the Jazz have another fine scorer in guard Darrell Griffith (22.6), a speedy point guard in Rickey Green (13.0, 7.8 assist), a defensive force in 7.4 center Mark Eaton (5.6 blocks a night) and a promising, young forward in Thurl Bailey (15.2, 6.5).

Utah appears to have some depth, too. Karl "The Mailman" Malone was the team's top pick, and Layden hopes he'll deliver some rebounding help to Eaton and Bailey. At 6-9, 250 pounds, Malone has got the necessary size.

Guard John Stockton, center Jeff Wilkins and forward Fred Roberts will be Utah's key reserves.

"I think we're capable of winning 50 games," Layden says. "But I also think we're capable of winning 40."

Obviously he'd prefer the former.

SAN ANTONIO SPURS - The Spurs will have the same, old faces as mainstays -- guards George Gervin and Johnny Moore, forward Mike Mitchell and center Artis Gilmore. That sounds like a good base, but Coach Cotton Fitzsimmons has problems.

Gilmore's gimpy knees could give out at any time, and the veteran has considered retiring. And Gervin has been the subject of trade rumors. Those factors, combined with an ordinary 41-41 record, didn't make for fun in San Antonio.

"But I think we made some strides," Fitzsimmons says. "I'm excited about this season."

Desperately needing help up front, the Spurs went out and drafted a swingman, Loyola's Alfrederick Hughes. He may be a prolific scorer, but that's not what the Spurs could use.

Fitzsimmons did pick up Jeff Cook and Steve Johnson in trades. They could help-- how much is another story. Veteran Marc Iavaroni is also available.

Guards Alvin Robertson and John Paxson managed to cut into the playing time of Moore and Gervin. Robertson and Hughes should be the Spur's starting backcourt of the future.

SACRAMENTO KINGS - The Kings still inhabit the Midwest but they've left Kansas City and moved some 2,000 miles west.

Sacramento has already embraced the Kings. The 10,333 seat Sacramento Arena (the Kings home until a new arena is built) is sold out for the season.

"Players like to play in front of a lot of people, at home or away," Coach Phil Johnson says. "From that standpoint along, the whole organization is excited about playing here."

The team, which was 31-51 a year ago, could be less than thrilling. Defense was the King's weak-

BOSTON CELTICS PRIDE

ness, which is why they drafted huge center Joe Kleine out of Arkansas on the first round. Kleine will contest LaSalle Thompson (11.8, 10.4) for playing time in the middle.

"If Kleine develops, center could be our strongest position," Johnson says.

The Kings have good guards in Reggie Theus (16.4, 8.0 assists), Larry Drew (14.9) and super-sub Mike Woodson (17.0). Forwards Eddie Johnson (22.9) and Otis Thorpe (12.8, 6.8) also has talent.

"We're a good running team and a good shooting team," Johnson says. "We're not great defensively and we don't have a good shot-blocker."

PACIFIC DIVISION

LOS ANGELES LAKERS - The Lakers won the NBA championship last year, beating the Celtics in six games in the finals.

Now let's see them do it again. No one has been able to repeat as titlists since Boston turned the trick in 1968-69, so history is against LA.

"I couldn't even enjoy winning the championship, because we have to figure out how to do it again," Laker Coach Pat Riley says.

The Lakers have made some changes. Gone are Jamaal Wilkes and Bob McAdoo, in are Maurice Lucas, acquired from the Phoenix Suns, and first-round pick A.C. Green.

Don't worry, Magic Johnson (18.2 points, 6.2 rebounds, 12.6 assists) is back for some more wheeling and dealing. So are James Worthy (17.6, 6.4), Byron Scott (16.0), tenacious swingman Michael Cooper and banger deluxe Kurt Rambis. Mike McGee, Larry Spriggs and Mitch Kupchak should also fill major roles.

What about Kareem Abdul-Jabbar? Yep, he's still going strong at 38. Abjul Jabbar, last season's playoff MVP, may never retire.

"As long as Kareem is around, they're going to have an edge," Portland guard Jim Paxson says.

About the only drawback the Lakers might have is the lack of someone who can consistently score from the outside. Scott, however, just might have those capabilities, and Green might also.

Just what the rest of the league wants to see. An opponent that's perfect.

PORTLAND TRAIL BLAZERS - The Blazers finished second in the Pacific, just in time to be axed by the Lakers in the playoffs.

Portland should be better than its 42-40 of last year, but no one in this division is even close to the Lakers. However, Portland does have a "Showtime" type in Clyde Drexler. The 6-7 guard averaged 17.2 points, 5.9 rebounds 5.5 assists and 2.21 steals a game. Jim Paxson (17.9), Darnell Valentine and Steve Colter are also capable guards.

As if four guards weren't enough, Portland made another backcourter--Terry Porter of Wisconsin - Stevens Point, its top pick. General manager Stu Inman gushes when talking about Porter, so it figures he'll fit in somewhere. One possibility is that Drexler will be moved to small forward.

Center is Sam Bowie's home. He averaged 10.0 points and 8.6 rebounds a game. The consensus is Bowie will get better. Forward/center Mychal Thompson (18.9) and forwards Ken Carr (10.4) and Kiki Vandeweghe (22.4) are other mainstays upfront. Vandeweghe had some problems adjusting in Portland, but not many can score like he can.

LOS ANGELES CLIPPERS - The "other" team in LA has a Celtic flavor. Ex-Celtic Don Chaney is in his first full season as head coach, and another erstwhile Celtic, Cedric Maxwell, went West in the Bill Walton swap.

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K.C.'s Corner

Need Strong, Consistent Play

We arrived back in Boston Sunday morning, the "Red-Eye" flight from Los Angeles. Flying through the night, and leaving the Pre-Season behind, a 4-4 preliminary season record. We won our last Pre-Season match in L.A. and I thought the players played a very good ballgame. We decided mid-way through the trip to send Larry Bird back home. It was our opinion that if he were able to work out and run on his own without contact, he would be better off than the banging he would take during the course of a regular NBA game.

As it turned out, some of the minutes in the Pre-Season could not have been any rougher. In our last ballgame, Maurice Lucas of the Lakers seemed to go after Robert Parish, our center. There was a lot of emotion out there and something had to give.

In the previous game in L.A., I was ejected as was Jimmy Rodgers. I did not know I had even gotten the second technical, which means automatic ejection. An ejection makes it particularly rough when you are attempting to evaluate players and their chances of making the roster.

I am pleased with our bench, the way it is developing. The Green Team started the final game against the Lakers because I wanted to see what they would do out there in that role. The move worked out; bench players and starters awoke and we determined the cause of the game.

The idea against the Lakers is stopping their championship level fast break. Mainly, we try to do this three related ways. First, we want to (ideally) charge the offensive board, hopefully score on second shots. If that fails, our intention is two-fold. We want to immediately swarm the LA rebounder to make it difficult to release the ball out quickly.

Against their point guard (or

"push man") on the break, usually Magic Johnson, the defense is focused. We want to make him circle backward to receive the pass. This delays their break and gives us a chance to either intercept the outlet pass or at the least, allow our defense to set up and match any advantage they might get on their break.

The Lakers are very strong; I liked scrimmaging them because it allowed us a probing look at our personnel against the best competition available. I don't know if the players agree with me. But we are building our ballclub now, and the competition for the final spot was very intense.

Celtics Waive Clark and Thirkill

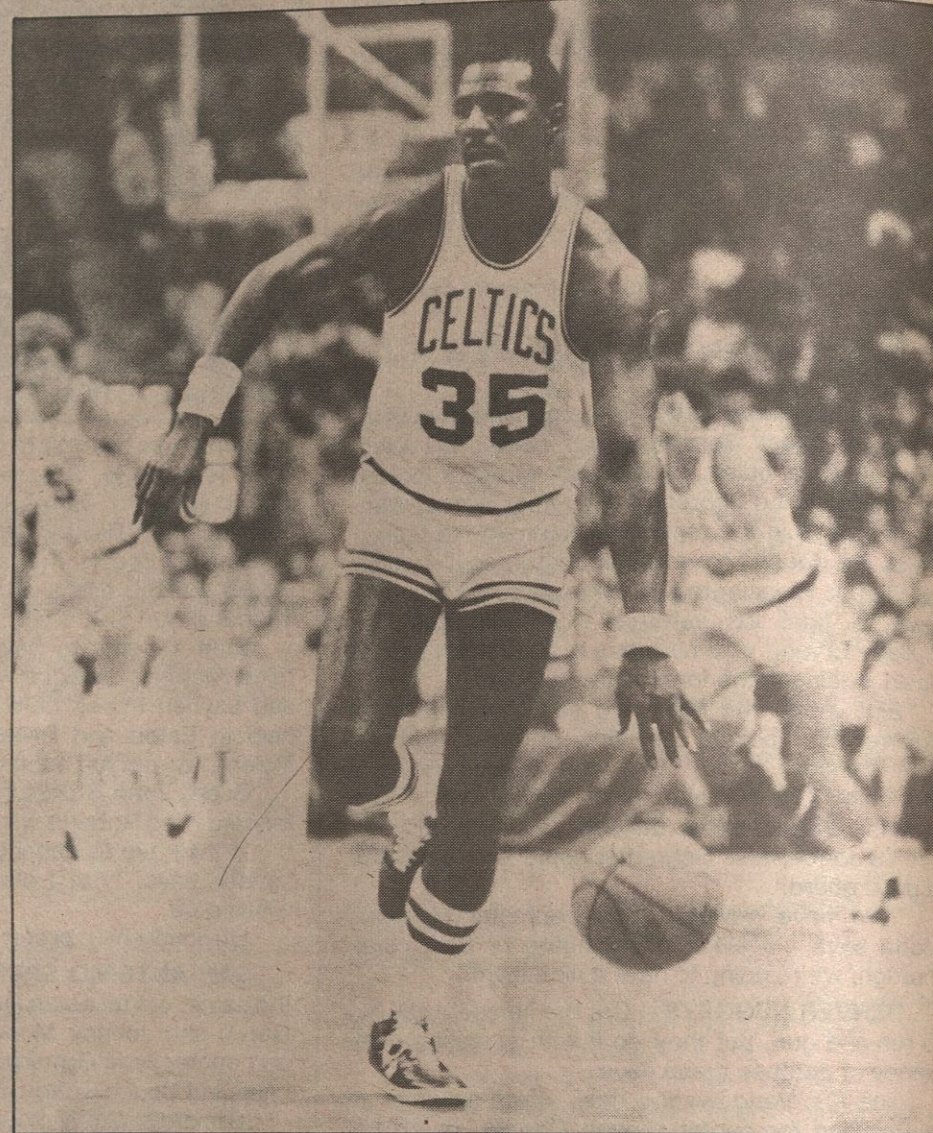
The Boston Celtics announced that they have waived veteran players Carlos Clark and David Thirkill to bring their roster to the NBA limit of 12.

Clark, who spent both of his professional seasons with the Celtics, shot 60% from the floor (15-25) in an average of 10.0 minutes per game in the pre-season. Clark averaged 7.0 points per game in 5 games.

Thirkill, a veteran of three seasons with four teams, also shot 60% from the floor (15-25) in an average of 11.8 minutes per game. Thirkill played in six games during the pre-season and averaged 6.7 points per game.

There are no certain signs to predict how a coach uses his players. Players 1 through 12 may make a difference in unforeseen ways. My team in Washington used Nick Weatherpoon and later James Jones to great advantage in 1974-76. They were 6th man and 3rd guard respectively.

In Boston we chose to use M.L. Carr as the first reserve off the bench in the 7th game when we won the title in '83-84. This decision, after M.L. had been our "designated" 12th man season-long. Last season of course saw the emergence of Kevin McHale from 6th man-role player into a legitimate super player.



Sly Williams: gaining in confidence.

That's part of coaching: each of the 12 is indispensable. When you place a player into a playing role, you have to expect that player to become better when he gets the time in 5 games, and trust and hope he responds.

We feel real good about the way Jerry Sichting, Bill Walton, Sly Williams, Sam Vincent, and Greg Kite have performed through the training session. Sichting is a polished pro, he has court smarts, he's hard-nosed. Sam's ability to penetrate and lead have been nice qualities and he will be able to help the team in a support role. I have liked Sly Williams' all-around game and his scrap and hustle since he played with New York. With each practice he seems to be gaining more confidence in our scheme, and ours is growing in turn.

I spoke about Bill Walton at length in this space before; when Larry had returned to Boston, we had an extensive look at the Walton-Parish-McHale front-line in the 1st road L.A. ballgame and I liked what I saw.

We have studied the films and think this will be effective in spots. Walton has a superior concept of the center position, especially on defense. The center has to guard four people because of help-out "D". He has to block shots, pass, move, be in the right position and knows this coming out of school. Bill does these things and he's a brilliant passer in the half-court offense and on the outlet pass to get the break going.

Building a balanced bench has been a key goal this Pre-Season. Bench play has never been more important than now in the modern game. Teams throughout the league are getting better; they get up for the Celtics every night; it's a faster-paced game with more talented people throughout the NBA.

Going up against the running of New Jersey, the revenge motive of Cleveland (for beating them in the playoffs last season), and the always difficult Bucks, will require already, the beginnings of strong consistent play from all of our people.

The Anatomy of a Trade

Bill Walton officially became a Boston Celtic on Sept. 6, in a swap which saw veteran forward Cedric Maxwell go to the Los Angeles Clippers.

It wasn't one of those deals that was completed in a few minutes. The two teams haggled, dickered and bargained for almost three months before finally getting it done.

The health of Walton and Maxwell was a major hang-up in the trade. Walton has been dogged by foot ailments his entire pro career, while Maxwell was coming off knee trouble. In fact, the Lakers were interested in Walton, but backed off when he supposedly failed a physical in July.

However, that didn't deter the Celtics from pursuing the redhead. And Walton didn't let money affect his willingness to play for Boston. Walton signed with Boston for a much smaller salary than he was drawing with the Clippers.

Maxwell, on the other hand, simply didn't fit into the Celtics' future plans. He relished the chance to join the Clippers, for whom he'd have an opportunity to play regularly. Going to Los Angeles also rejoined Maxwell with ex-Celtic teammate Don Chaney.

Anyway, once the Clips and Celts decided this trade was worth trying to bang out, they went to work. Maxwell's knee strength was measured with a Cybex machine, and didn't fare very well. That apparently killed the deal, but Maxwell underwent a month-long rehabilitation process of the knee under the guidance of Clipper conditioning coach Jim Bush. Walton failed his Laker physical shortly thereafter.

Then, the Cleveland Cavaliers stepped into the picture. Cleveland proposed trading a couple of un-

named forwards to Los Angeles for Walton, but that quickly fizzled.

Celtics General Manager Jan Volk and Clipper GM Carl Scheer began intense negotiating shortly thereafter. A deal was worked out where Walton and Maxwell would switch teams, and the Clippers would get a first-round pick. Boston also agreed to pick up part of Maxwell's salary.

Amazingly, both players took physicals for the second time--and passed. The next hurdle was the salary cap. That was taken care of, Walton agreed to terms and joined the Celtics.

"This was the most difficult trade I've ever had to make," Volk says.

All-Star Voting Begins

Voting for the starting teams for the 36th NBA East-West All-Star game at Reunion Arena, Dallas, February 9, begins November 1 in all NBA cities and concludes January 15. The top vote getters--the starting teams for the East and West squads--will be announced January 26.

Last year, a record 2.8 million votes were cast nationally and the goal of the LITE/NBA All-Star Voting program this year is 3.2 million ballots. This marks the fifth year the program has been sponsored by Miller Brewing Company.

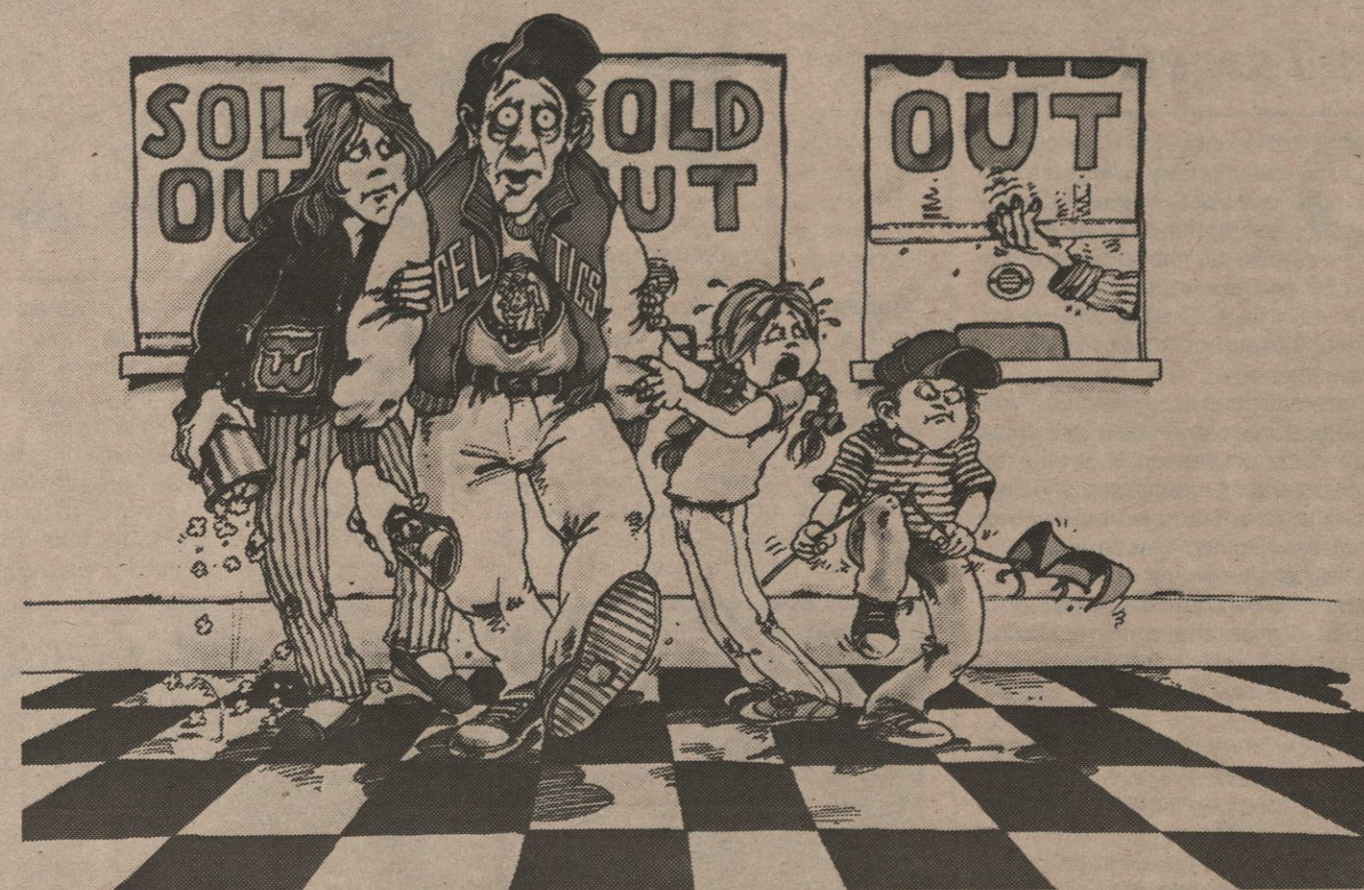
Larry Bird has been a starter in six consecutive All-Star games. Last year he was joined by Robert Parish and Dennis Johnson. Kevin McHale and Cedric Maxwell also were on the ballot but were not selected by fans or the coaches to participate in the contest.

This year, the Celtics starting five will be on the ballot for the first time in the history of the program. Voters have to select five players in the East and five in the West in order to have the ballot validated.

With Bird, Parish, McHale, Johnson and Danny Ainge, Boston fans have an edge in filling out the ballots which will be available at 15 home games starting November 1. The Celtics will have a ballot squad at each of the games to distribute and collect the ballots.

Kareem Abdul-Jabbar holds the record for most All-Star games (14) played while Oscar Robertson is the all-time scoring leader in All-Star games with 246 points in 12 games.

In the Boston area, Burke Distributing Corporation of Randolph, the Miller Brewing Company distributor in Greater Boston, is assisting the Celtics in the LITE/NBA All-Star Voting promotion.



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M. L. Carr

On Target!

Obviously, the Celtics will have a very talented team this year. The most interesting thing to look at is to see all the players from one to 12 on the roster could be starters on any team. The big thing is for the Celtics to get off to a good start—I'm sure they will.

People around town ask me "Will the Celtics be okay? How are they doing?" The preseason is a time to get physical and mental conditioning down. The preseason isn't indicative of what the regular season is about. Exhibition is time to experiment—K.C. was trying to see how the guys blend together. When the season starts, the team will be on target.

I'm not worried about all the players getting enough minutes. K.C. will sit down with the guys and talk about their roles. They don't want to key on too many individual things. We want to be a team. If you're called on to play, you play.

The players have to know they're an intricate part of the club. Playing time won't be a problem—we have a very competitive group of guys. This makes guys stay on top of their game—there will be tough practices.

Bill Walton gives us great awareness of the game from the center position and will compliment **Robert Parish**. The tendency when a substitution is made, is to let down. That won't happen now. Opposing centers have got to play as hard whether Walton or Parish is in. Walton knows how to win. He's excited to be here. He's a big plus for the team.

Jerry Sichting is a heady player who'll never hurt you in a game. Consistency describes him—he doesn't rattle under pressure. He shores up the backcourt. Our backcourt is very strong and relatively young.

I haven't seen much of **Sam**



Walton: exciting to be here.

Vincent, but he knows the game. He's a true penetrator and sees the floor very well. He's grown up playing against great players like **Magic Johnson** and **Isiah Thomas**.

As far as the Atlantic Division goes, you unfortunately don't play games on paper. A lot goes into winning—you have to have the players

healthy and happy. A lot of variables are out there. For example, how will Philadelphia respond with a new coach and how will they rebound from an early playoff exit last year.

The Knicks have got two big centers, but there's still a growth time with that team. They have to have **Bernard King** in there to take the scoring pressure off **Patrick Ewing**.

A team that could be right in there is the **New Jersey Nets**. They have been together for several years. They've got some things they want to prove—they're not a young team anymore. If they pull together, they could be tough. In this division, the Celtics can't take anything for granted.

Around the league...there's been some definite improvement with **Cleveland**. They'll be much better this year—the playoffs had to give them confidence. They won't be the laugh of the league and more. They'll come up and win some games.

The **Lakers** will be the team to beat—they're riding high. **Maurice Lucas** gives them another good player. I expect **LA** to be there, but the **Celtics** will be there, too. The **Milwaukee Bucks** aren't over-achievers—they've got a good team, somehow, somehow, **Don Nelson** finds a way to win. Last year was supposed to be a rebuilding year for them, but **Don** had them right up there.

The **Laker-Celtic** rivalry is pretty heated. We've played them twice in the finals the last two years. **LA** thinks they should've won both, we think they shouldn't have won any. If we both get to the finals, expect the rivalry to escalate even more. So much has been written and said the last two years, that the rivalry has become not only **Lakers vs. Celtic**, but **LA vs. Boston**. It's like **East** against **West**.

SportsChannel Holds Johnny Most Sound-Alike Contest



(Picture L to R) Host **Tommy Heinsohn**, contestants **Mike Donovan**, **Justin Peirce** and **Craig Frank**, judges **Mike Carey**, **Rick Weitzman**, **Glen Ordway** and **Johnny Most**.

Suffolk University, came out on top and was awarded the grand prize. A second prize which went to **Mike Donovan** was a **Johnny Most Fiddle-Diddle** sports fantasy tape.

SportsChannel New England serves almost 100,000 subscribers in five states with exclusive coverage of all **Boston Celtics** home games and

playoffs, **Hartford Whalers** and in select areas the **New York Yankees** and **New York Mets**. Other **SportsChannel** programming includes nightly thoroughbred racing, boxing, tennis, wrestling and a variety of monthly specials and weekly series highlighting people and happenings in the world of sports.



Eddie Gilmooly

Five Celtics Starters On All-Star Ballot

Celtics fans won't have any problems making out their **All-Star** ballots this year. The national selection committee, comprised of writers and broadcasters, made the task easy by nominating the **Celtics** five starters for the **1986 NBA All-Star** game in **Dallas** next February.

This marks the first time in the history of the **All-Star Voting** promotion the **Celtics** have had five starters on the ballot. In the past few years, they've had five players on the ballot but **Kevin McHale** was the team's sixth man and not a starter.

Most unique on this year's **LITE/NBA All-Star Ballot** is the nomination of guard **Danny Ainge**. It's obvious his steady performance as the team's point guard last season attracted national attention.

However, it's highly unlikely **Ainge** will receive the necessary votes to gain a spot on the east **All-Star** team because he's matched against the likes of **Isiah Thomas**, **Sidney Mongrief**, **Mo Cheeks**, **Otis Birdsong**, **Michael Jordan**, **Michael Ray Richardson**, and his own teammate **Dennis Johnson**.

But no matter how many votes he receives in the balloting which starts **November 1** and runs through **January 15**, **Ainge** has finally achieved the "star" status that many assumed he would attain much earlier in his career.

Since joining the **Celtics** in **December, 1981**, after a brilliant basketball career with **Brigham Young University** and two seasons as third baseman with the **Toronto Blue Jays**, **Ainge** developed a legion of critics among **Celtics** fans.

Too many assumed **Ainge** would be able to step into the lineup and become the second-coming of **Jo Jo White**, providing the **Celtics** with the outside shooting the team so desperately needed, particularly in

the confrontations against the **Sixers** and the **Lakers**.

But the **Celtics** situation was not conducive to the happening. With a strong front court, the **Celtics** didn't need a **Jo Jo**-like guard to take 15 to 20 shots a game. The need was for a backcourt man to push the ball up court, find the open man and play defense.

Adjusting to that task was not easy for **Ainge** who had the green light to shoot in college. The **Celtics** prefer to have the ball in **Larry Bird's** hands first and **Robert Parish** and/or **Kevin McHale's** second. Making that

happen is the strength of the **Celtics** guards.

Critics have been quick to jump on the **Celtics** backcourt when they miss an open jumper or when the opposition's guards score a ton of points. But both of these problems are a result of the opposition's respect for the **Celtics** front court on both offense and defense.

Unlike the eras of **Sam Jones** and **Jo Jo White**, when the **Celtics** offense included 10 to 15 plays each game for the shooting guard, the present system practically ignores the guards in the offensive game plan.

Ainge and **D.J.**, as well as any other guard on the court for the **Celtics**, mostly free lance on offense, getting their points off the break or taking jumpers to keep the opposition honest—to loosen up the double teams on **Bird** and the other forwards.

The **Celtics** guards often give up their favorite shots to get the ball inside and they work diligently at that chore. Mostly, the perimeter shots are taken from a standstill position—one of the toughest shots—because the opposition refuses to release on the double team.

Mainly the strategy creates a lot of indecision for the guards. They are not concentrating on shooting. Their

task is to get the ball inside. They are not shooting off picks or other designed plays.

The criticism lodged against the **Celtics** guards in recent years concerning their defensive efforts also has been unjust. Most teams rely on their guards for scoring against the **Celtics** because of the front court. Naturally, if a guard takes 20-25 shots, he'll score 25 to 30 points.

After a heralded arrival, **Ainge** struggled through his initial season with the **Celtics**, making only 35 percent of his shots while averaging just 4.1 points in 53 games. He alternated between the point guard and off guard positions.

The following season, after participating in his first training camp—baseball included—**Ainge** gave every indication he was in route to stardom, improving his shooting average to 49 percent and scoring to 9.9 in 80 games.

However, **Ainge** became a little erratic and inconsistent working as the third guard behind **D.J.** and **Gerry Henderson** in 1983-84 and his touch fell of 46 percent as did his average—5.4 points in 71 contests.

Despite the slump, **K.C. Jones** was convinced **Ainge** was the team's point guard of the future and handed him the starting spot by trading **Henderson** to **Seattle**. **Ainge** repaid **Jones** with a sparkling season that saw him hitting 52 percent of his shots and hiking his average to 12.9 points in 75 contests.

Moreover, **Ainge** developed into a solid ballhandler and seldom was charged with turnovers. His defense always has been aggressive. In 21 playoff games last season, he was credited with 32 steals and 38 defensive rebounds.

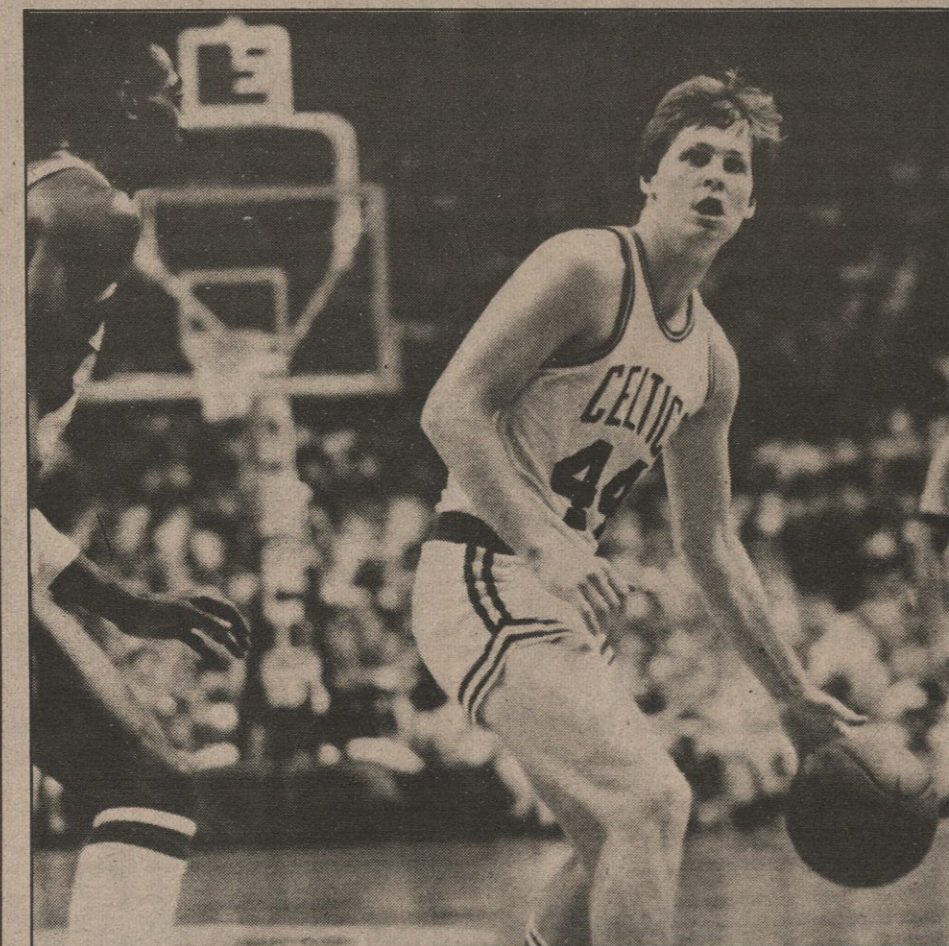
Now, obviously oozing with confidence, **Ainge** enters this season as an experienced and quality performer. His nomination by the selection committee for the **LITE/NBA All-Star** balloting program is proof he has earned respect in the league.

Ainge, along with **Bird**, **Parish**, **McHale** and **Johnson**, will receive a lot of votes from **Boston** fans but it will be interesting to watch how many votes are cast for him in other **NBA** cities.

It probably won't happen this year, but soon **Ainge** will be a participant in an **NBA All-Star** game.

TRIVIA QUESTION—Name all 11 original teams that comprised the **NBA** in its first season—1946-47. Answer is below.

ANSWER: **Boston Celtics**, **Chicago Stags**, **Cleveland Rebels**, **Detroit Falcons**, **New York Knickerbockers**, **Philadelphia Warriors**, **Pittsburgh Ironmen**, **Providence Steamrollers**, **St. Louis Bombers**, **Toronto Huskies**, and **Washington Capitols**. (NOTE: The **Celtics** and **Knicks** are the only two teams remaining from the original cast).



Danny Ainge: soon to be All-Star.



McHale: Rising Star Already at Super Level

by Bob Schron

Moses Malone and Kevin McHale are battling—Malone's muscle versus Kevin's angular bone weapon—underneath the basket in the very first pre-season game of the 1985-86 season. Boston has gained possession in a sudden transition and McHale has hustled for position down low.

Larry Bird searches the court for a pass, sees McHale but suddenly Dennis Johnson swerves around Sedale Threatt for a feed through the lane. But Johnson, off-balance in the year's first game, misses.

Malone, seemingly victorious meanwhile in the duel for position with McHale, clutches the rebound and the action returns upcourt.

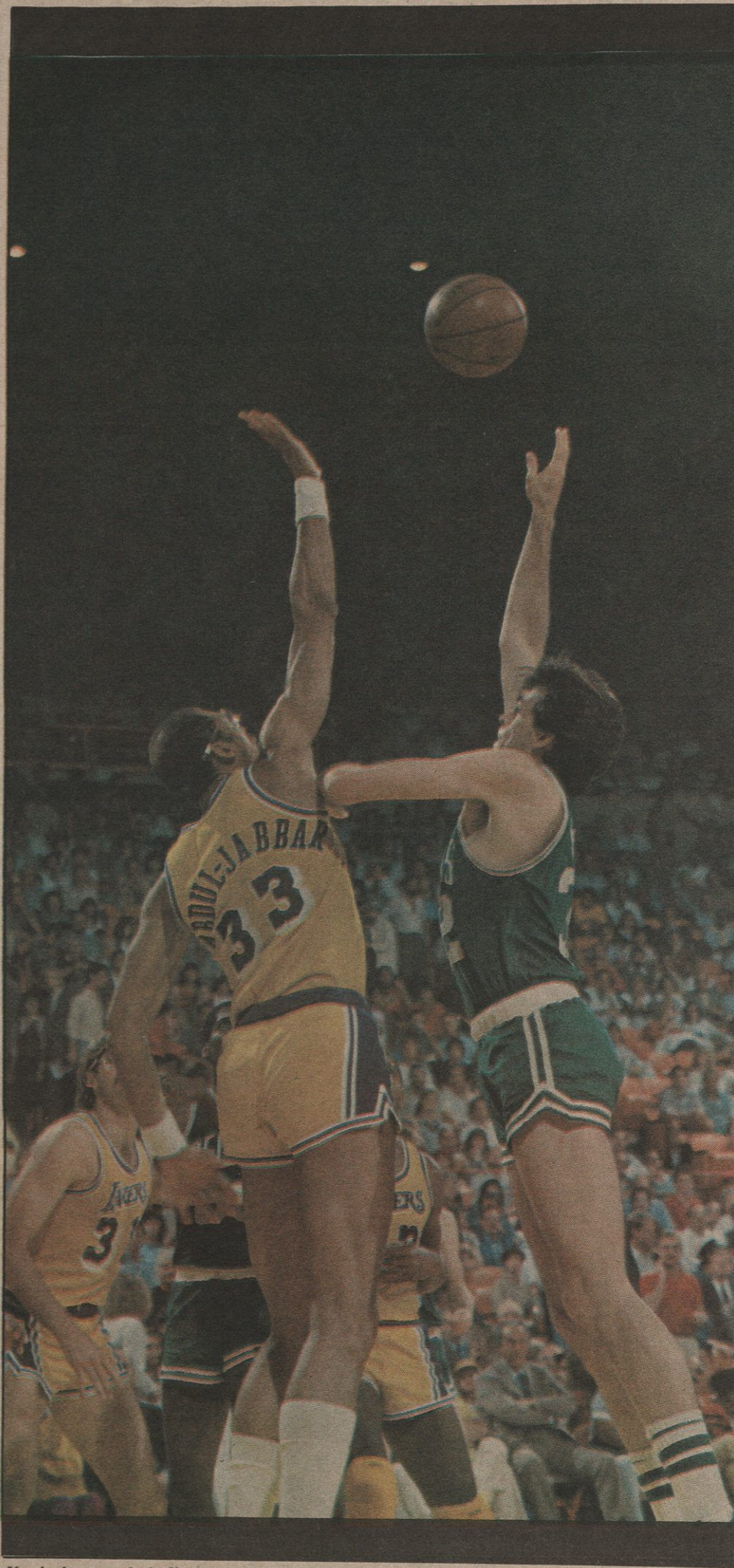
All the action, that is, except Kevin Edward McHale. Incredulous referee Ed Rush has overlooked what McHale thinks is a foul, Kevin is shouting at Ed Rush. **Loudly.** Long arms are waving, gesturing with a temporary madness.

"How can you not call that?!! How could you let that go?!!" McHale is furious but then he apparently reawakens. He sprints down the Garden floor, becomes involved in the Celtic clogging defense.

It is another play, another game in the fun-loving job of possibly the premier power forward in the NBA, Kevin McHale. Part extroversion, human seriousness, and intent on living a determined simplified existence, the 28-year old Celtic last season emerged into an irreplaceable player in the Celtic scheme. Stormclouds of controversy circled the off-season camp in Boston as the team prepared to deal away hero of the 1981 and 1984 championships, Cedric Maxwell. Serious knee injury or shrugged rehabilitation? Should Max have found his way to rookie camp or was he entitled to veteran consideration in such matters?

Difficult dilemma but those and other questions clouded the core issue. The Celtics understood Kevin McHale had arrived. McHale had to have critical minutes and a dissatisfied Maxwell would, sadly, have muddled the chemistry both players had constructed throughout the five seasons McHale and Maxwell played together.

Image and reality intermingle when attempting to understand McHale. He is somewhat archaically tall, dark and handsome, a spokesman for a Boston bank. He possesses a penchant for being quotable; during war-like atmosphere of the NBA finals last season he replied to Laker Coach Pat Riley's goading, "(Riley's) just trying to keep this thing going in



Kevin has made believers everywhere.

the newspapers so the referees will read it. I've got to give him credit for working hard. Anybody would have to work hard to keep his hair in place that long."

His playing style visually is a paradox. Apparently too angular or slender to be a power player, he is rather a dominant scorer. He is a quick jumper, and uses his long arms for superiority on the vital offensive board. He doesn't have great confidence in his passing or dribbling, but he is virtually unstoppable when he knifes through the lane right-handed on a power drive. There is the soft fadeaway turnaround the surprisingly accurate 12-foot jump shot.

He is a stunningly graceful shot-blocker and an improved defender.

Kevin McHale is handsome, articulate, and an excellent and improving superstar. He is in a position to have it all materially and display it. Yet this is where image and reality conflict.

McHale is decisively at one with his roots. He is the son of a Hibbing Minnesota miner of 43 years. He has a deeply felt commitment to the work ethic. He is a devoted family man, married to wife Lynn McHale and father to Kristyn (2). He is well-paid and therefore is able to poke fun at life. McHale considers himself a working man, intent on doing his job with pride and quality. In the public eye, Kevin wants to get up, go to work, work hard, then go home and spend the evening with his family.

McHale has made believers of skeptics throughout his basketball career, probably, including himself. He was growing to be 6-10 at Hibbing High School but played on a team which had six other players at 6-6 or better. He played the high post there under Gary Addington and Terry Maciej. More than specific techniques, McHale remembers these men insisting that "the game be fun." The attitude served him successfully because his entry into the major collegiate ranks at the University of Minnesota was uncertain initially.

"We weren't sure at first that Kevin was going to be the kind of player who would be offered a scholarship," stated Jim Dutcher, McHale's Minnesota coach, in 1976. "We saw in high school that he could run pretty well and he seemed like a good team player. But we didn't know about his offensive abilities."

That was in McHale's freshman season and despite those earlier reservations, McHale was a starter early that 1st year. Offense? McHale loved to dunk, and he had a scent for the big play. He made a critical block in the final minute against eventual

champion Marquette in Milwaukee to clinch a 66-59 win. He came off the bench to replace All-American Mychal Thompson (in foul trouble) and tallied 12 points and 7 rebounds in another poise-testing road 62-60 victory over Kansas State.

McHale's amateur career reflects honors and consistency. Ironically he was injured and discouraged some of this period, a period in which he was All Big-10 as a senior, MVP of the post-collegiate Aloha Classic, and second on the all-time Minnesota scoring and rebounding lists. After the Gophers finished 24-3 in his freshman season, McHale suffered an injured achilles as a sophomore, and never did get along with several teammates after Thompson graduated.

McHale averaged 15.2 ppg in school, as he has throughout his professional career, in regular season and in playoff competition. This remarkable consistency is likely to be upgraded from this season forward, as the player enters his peak seasons.

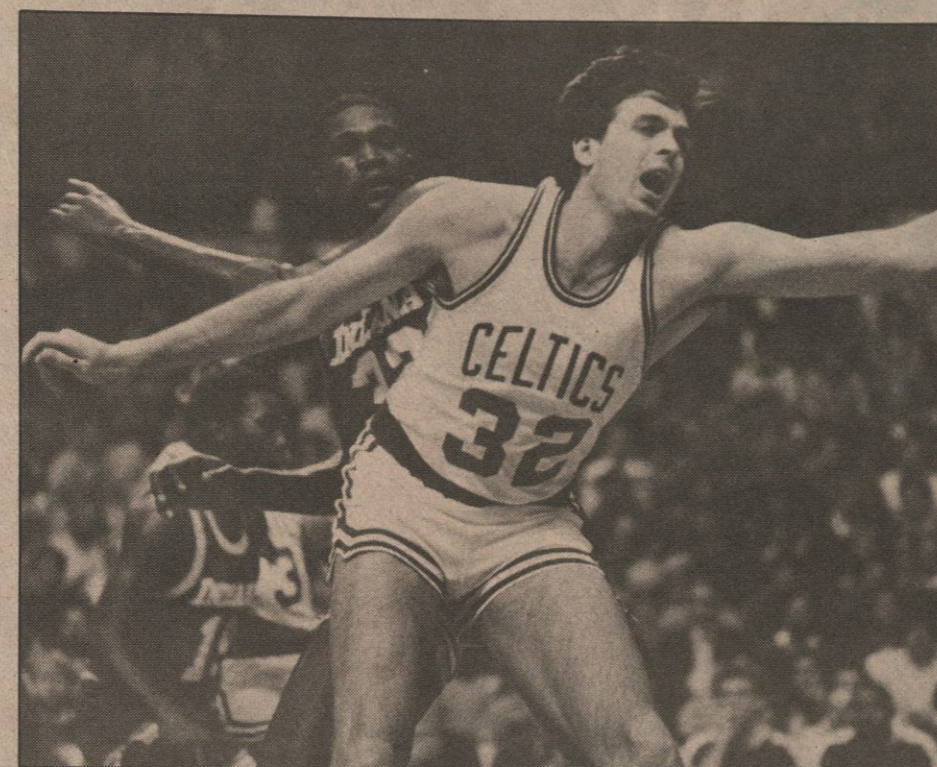
The National Basketball Association and Kevin McHale, a collusion which has given fire to evolving facets of the man's personality and talent. The latter was instantly apparent; rescued by the Celtics from the Italian League at the last moment in Milan, Kevin flew all night on El Italia Airlines in the middle of pre-season, 1980-81. He emerged from customs, signed a contract at the Garden, and went to practice. Wary teammates become believers in the player: McHale blocked Larry Bird's shots on two occasions, and became an important part of the team's bench in that championship season under Bill Fitch. In the critical playoff 6th game road win over Philadelphia, McHale saved the title by blocking Andrew Toney's game-winning attempt, and the clutch play gave the title to Boston.

Yet despite two more productive seasons under Fitch, including a stint as part of the starting Twin Tower tandem with Robert Parish on the 1981-82, 18-game winning streak McHale and Fitch constantly feuded.

"I say to this day, he is an excellent coach," McHale states. "But I think he was too judgmental and besides, I was never used to having a coach ride me."

Observe any Celtic practice and observe Kevin McHale. The sleek tall sinewy Irishman runs, scimmages, laughs, jokes, and stays late into the day after the morning sessions are done. Coach Fitch fueled with Kevin at practice; this is the setting of McHale's happiest moment as a pro athlete.

Kevin at practice, ball in hand, wandering from basket to basket, gleefully setting loose the boy inside him, running with the wind as contracts, appearances, interviews scatter



"One of the eight best in the league"...Larry Bird.

somewhere along the roadside. Kevin McHale wanted to play ball and play. Coach Fitch felt practice was work.

The determined, stubborn, and ornery Fitch now again is successful in

Houston. McHale's coach K.C. Jones, who the player "likes", stated recently about McHale's present greatness, "The longer his minutes, the more his game totally developed, the more his total game became apparent. He's become smarter in his

SELF PORTRAIT



KEVIN McHALE

BIRTHDATE AND PLACE: December 19, 1957, Hibbing, Minnesota
OCCUPATION: Power Forward, Boston Celtics
IF I COULD BUY ANY CAR, I'D BUY A: Truck
FAVORITE ALL-TIME TV SHOW: Gunsmoke
FAVORITE ANIMAL IN THE ZOO: Monkey
ENTREE I WOULD CHOOSE FOR MY LAST MEAL: He'd be too depressed to eat.
THE FOUR GUESTS AT MY FANTASY DINNER PARTY: Four people he knows
FAVORITE CITY IN THE NBA: Boston
FAVORITE RESTAURANT: North End Italian places and Seafood restaurants on the pier
FAVORITE COMEDIAN: Jay Leno
FAVORITE BOARD GAME: Scrabble
IF I HAD TO CHOOSE ANOTHER PROFESSION I'D BE A: Enjoys basketball
HIGH SCHOOL NICKNAME: Muckraker
FAVORITE DRINK: Beer
OLDEST PIECE OF CLOTHING: Old hunting shirt
I'D SPEND MY LAST \$10 ON: A hamburger and a beer
FAVORITE MUSICIAN: Bob Dylan
FAVORITE BROADWAY MUSICAL: Sweeney Todd
I WISH I KNEW HOW TO: Play guitar and create music

play on both the offensive and defensive end."

Assistant Coach and Director of Scouting Jimmy Rodgers repeatedly referred to the player's devoted work habits as the reason, "he is continually improving." Newcomer Bill Walton noted that "what stands out is the respect his teammates give him." In a tribute great players receive, Walton continued, "He makes the players around him better."

Lofty praise and a happy if unforeseen tribute for Kevin McHale in the Hub. During 1982-83 McHale was an unsettled player, jousting for a new contract, unwillingly and unwittingly negotiating publicly. He was nearly traded in the off-season. Larry Bird suggested McHale's preoccupation with his contract hurt the team.

"It was a bad scene," McHale recalls. "The team was in different directions. It was the worst..."

McHale would sign in Boston and after early '83-'84 discussions, he became the role-playing 6th Man. As much as any player he was responsible for the team's regular season title on the team's path to the NBA championship. For the first of two straight seasons he was voted as "6th Man of the Year." As he emerged into top echelon last year Bird symbolically reversed his position: "Kevin is one of the eight best in the league," stated the two-time MVP.

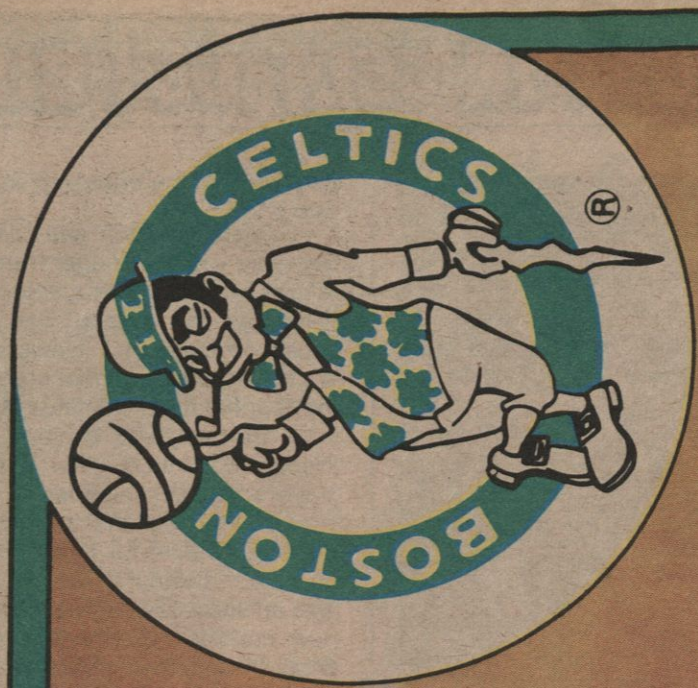
Told this, McHale's eyes reflect deep appreciation. Verbally, "I don't really think about All-Pro and stuff like that. I do like playing for K.C., with Larry, Robert, DJ.

"I just enjoy playing basketball (also hunting, fishing, Bob Dylan, Springsteen). I can relate basketball to having a job," he replies to a query. "The game at this level demands a supreme amount of concentration." Last season talent, confidence, personality and maturity translated into dominance. As starter during the last half of the year, he set a temporary Celtic record of 56 points and averaged 24.5ppg. In the playoffs he was the team's best player, prompting Pat Riley to observe "He is just such an incredible scorer."

Kevin McHale appreciates life in pro basketball; it provides for his family, it's a forum for opportunity, a forum for the man to develop his talent.

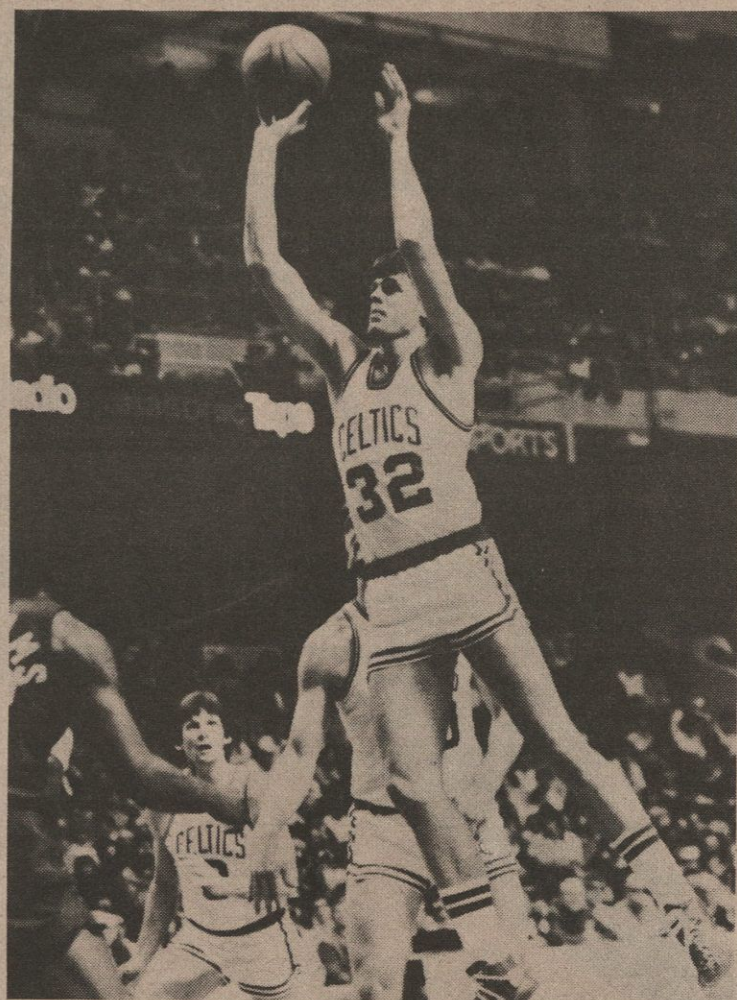
"My talent is a gift God gave me. My dad is 5-10, my mom is 5-6. So many people in the NBA don't realize their talent is a gift," he told Alan Greenberg in the *Los Angeles Times*. "Players think they're here just because they worked at it. But to be in this league you have to be something special. Some people have chemical problems—they're abusing the gift God gave them. I'm not a teetotaler but I try to take care of myself. I don't want anything to come between me and the gift God gave me."





KEVIN MCHALE

EDGE[®] HAILS McHALE



Edge gel, the Number One shaving preparation in America salutes Kevin McHale, winner of the Edge NBA Sixth Man Award.



McHale, Dr. J Go Hollywood

Kevin McHale and Julius Erving, All-Star forward of Celtics and 76ers, recently filmed several segments for NBA Properties, to be shown on WTBS and national telecasts of NBA games this season.

It was Hollywood, it was makeup; it was lunch in the cafeteria, there were friendly jibes of by-play between the friendly rivals.

For Kevin McHale: extra swabs of makeup, to reduce glare reflecting off of pale, white shoulders.

For the legendary Erving, there was a newly grown goatee. Dr. J. casually commented to McHale that "the beard diminishes attention which

might be focused" on a slowly emerging balding area on the Sixer forward's head.

Erving was a natural, reciting lines with the experience of an ESPN sports show host; the forward is hosting a show that he is producing with sportscaster Harry Kalas of Philadelphia for the national cable sports network. McHale is gaining similar confidence and ease before the cameras. He and the Doctor acted through several takes which last approximately three hours. Featured were the diverse selection of merchandise from NBA properties as featured in the NBA catalog: colorful shirts depicting NBA team logos, warmup pants, balls, backboards, jackets and more.

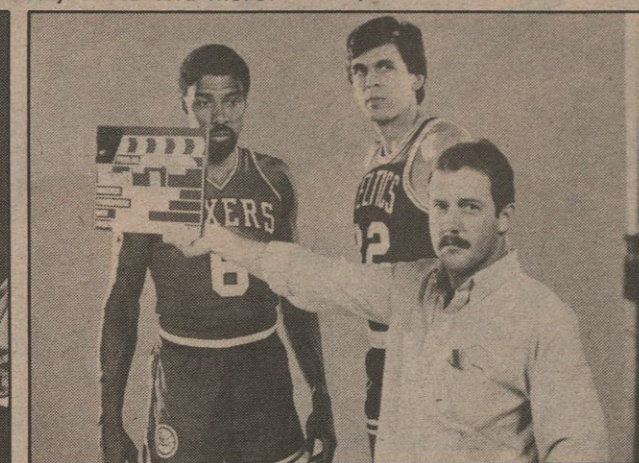
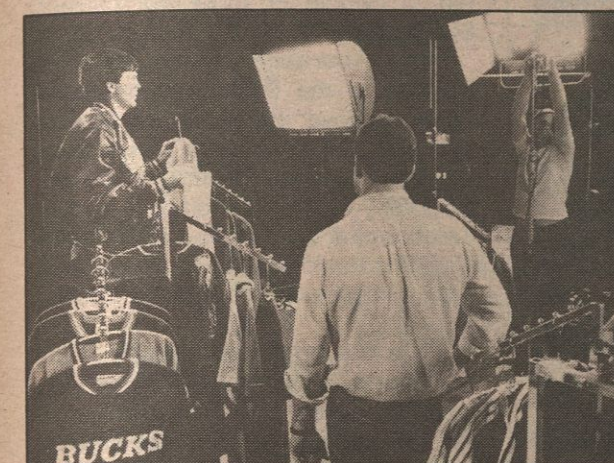
BOSTON CELTICS PRIDE



Next step, Soap Operas?

At the conclusion of the filming the stars signed autographs for an admiring crew.

The filming was also captured in photograph by NBA and Celtics Pride photographer, Steven Lipofsky.



Kevin McHale jumped into his Blazer last week, turned the tape player on, and talked about his adventures in professional basketball. But it was clear that the day was nearly through. What lay ahead for the player was an afternoon at home. He increased the volume on the song ---early Dylan. McHale engages in the necessity of interviewing willingly, twenty-five percent of the time.

"I'll talk about other people," he explains. "Larry, others, but I don't really like talking about myself."

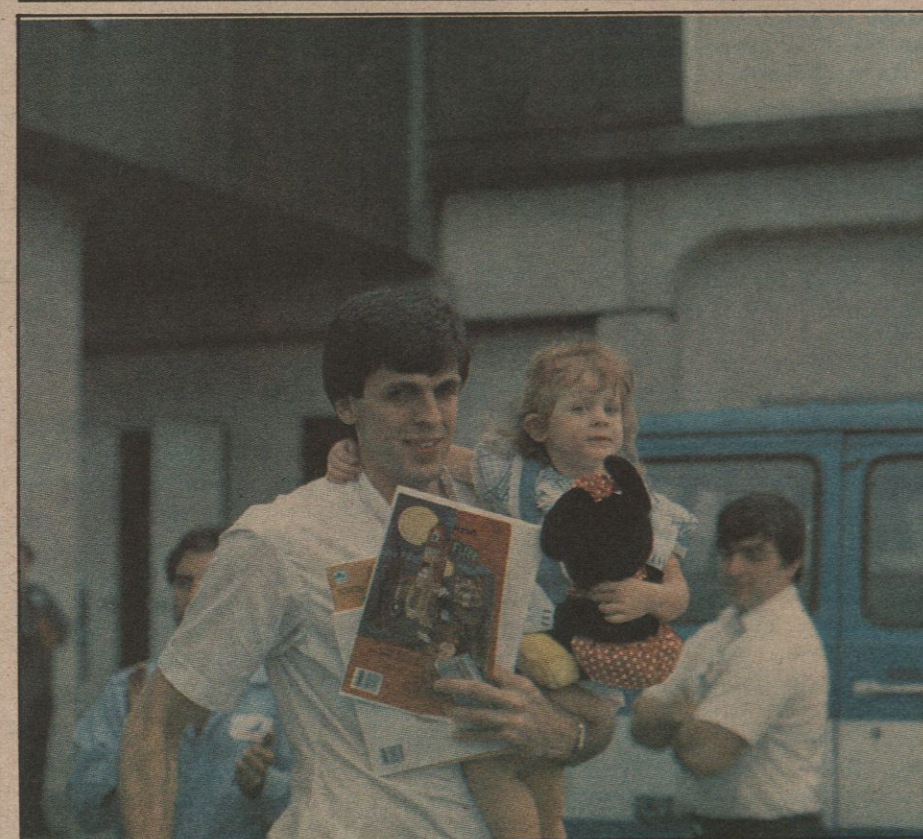
Mike Carey in the *Boston Herald* chronicled the doings of a man who lived...lived a storming life during the off-season. He continues to maintain life-long friendships with men he grew up with in Hibbing. McHale is a superbly conditioned athlete in season, but he has no intentions of turning his back on the good times he has with his friends.

"My philosophy in life," he states, "is to go through life and create as few waves as possible."

"At the end though, my intention is to produce many, many ripples."

The player shouts out, and he heads home. Home for the McHale family is Hibbing, Minnesota, but during the season they maintain a condominium in Brookline. Lynn

Kevin's First Priority Is Family



Kevin and Kristyn: a special relationship.

McHale is a lovely woman who grew up with Kevin in Hibbing; the two married during McHale's second season in Boston and have two children, Kristyn, 2, and Michael, eight months.

"He's very thoughtful with the children," Lynn has stated. To this end, the babies are already avid Garden fans. In the epilogue of each game night's drama, McHale enters the area where the players' wives wait for the players and immediately attends to the children. "The attention he gives to the children is special," Lynn pointed out.

McHale brought the family to the NBA Championship finals in Los Angeles last June.

During the ambiguous time Kevin contemplated leaving Boston in 1983, McHale said "The ethical matter for me is taking care of my family. It's absolutely imperative that I do the right thing where they are concerned."

Lynn McHale's family and Kevin McHale's family both live close to the couple and their children in Hibbing. Summers are spent fishing, and generally "unwinding," McHale has said.

"Once the season is over, it has to be over. Then I'm out fishing away from (the public eye)."



Celtics Confidential

By Bob Schron

Loyalty, Coast to Coast. "I'm fortunate my job permits me to move," Arthur Hartfelt, stockbroker at Drexel-Burnham in Boston commented at a Celtic practice, last week. "Otherwise, there would have been little possibility of me moving out here from Los Angeles." Hartfelt is close friend, former business partner, and present stockbroker for new Celtic Bill Walton. He has made the transfer east to watch his friend deal with the challenges of the physical play of the Eastern Conference of the NBA.

"Bill will leave practice and be upset about the way he's played," Hartfelt explained. "I remind him that there were several months when he couldn't walk. I've known Bill in a cast for a long time."

The two, with Susan Walton, operated Bill Walton's Wonder Food Bee Hives for several years during Walton's injury plagued stay with the Clippers.

With a waiting list in season tickets numbering over 5,000 it is useful to look back and recall that the present list outnumbered three game attendances for Boston home games as recently as 1977-78. The Celtics and the Lakers drew a capacity house of 15,134 in Hartford for the pre-season game October 6. For a regular mid-season game that 1977-78 year, Hartford turned out to be the cool number of 5,158.

Sam Vincent competed against Magic Johnson, Gregory Kelsner, Isiah Thomas and Jay Vincent on the East Lansing, Michigan playground throughout the past several summers. Magic Johnson commented on Vincent's play, "He'll be a great addition to the team. He knows what the pro game is about because he's played it on the playground. I think it'll take him about a month to learn the Celtics system, and another month to know the opposition. Then the Celtics can look for major contributions from him."

Kim Wedman, like Sylvia Carr and Nancy Parish, is a student of Kung Fu. Wedman spent a week studying the art this summer in her native city, Los Angeles. Michael Cooper thinks Bill Walton's contribution will be on the defensive end. "His major strength is what he can contribute by blocking shots, knowing defensive positioning, and getting the break started off his outlet passing." Pat Riley emphatically denied that the Lakers did not sign Walton because of an insufficient physical. "There were five of us making the decision and we just



Red Auerbach: Featured speaker at Boston Globe Book Festival.

decided to go in another direction and sign Maurice Lucas." Part of that direction could be seen last week when Kareem Abdul-Jabbar verbally agreed to play two more seasons, at \$2 million per annum.

Dave Cowens has continued to pursue humanitarian concerns. Last week he presented an alcohol awareness seminar at MIT. Training for Intervention Procedures by Servers of Alcohol (T.I.P.S.) is a program sponsored by Miller Beer. Two other former Celtics continue to be active in similar help-oriented programs. Tom Sanders has been traveling extensively, teaching and promoting The Center for Study of Sport in Society at Northeastern. "It is not a program about sport only," Sanders emphasizes. "Rather it is an examination of how the culture has become regimented into certain ways of doing things which has prevented people from exploring their potential," observed Sanders earlier this year. It is a multi-level program offering programs in secondary education and through curricula which help athletes develop careers when they finish their athletic lives. Sanders is associate director. He works with director of the program Richard Lapchick who authored the book Broken Promises. Also on the staff in senior

fellow Robert Lipsyte, former sports New York Times and New York Post columnist and author of Sportsworld: An American Dreamland. Western coordinator is Anita DeFrantz. The address and phone number of the center is Center for the Study of Sport in Society, Northeastern University, 360 Huntington Avenue, Boston, MA 02115. 617-437-5815.

The B'nai B'rith held its annual tapoff dinner at Lombardo's in Randolph for the Celtic organization, Wednesday night, October 23.

WLVI Channel 56 will host a party for the organization in early November at the Westin Hotel, Copley Square in Boston.

M.L. Carr is traveling extensively for the Bank of Boston and recently was in Chicago where the bank is participating in a fingerprinting program for children.

K.C. Jones has joined Bobby Orr, former Bruins hockey superstar on the management team of Tony Roma's in Framingham. The restaurant will have a formal re-opening November 4th and the restaurant K.C. hosted the Celtic office in a gathering, Monday evening, October 21st. This is Jones' second venture in the greater Boston community in recent years. He had joined Rick Robey in a varied sporting

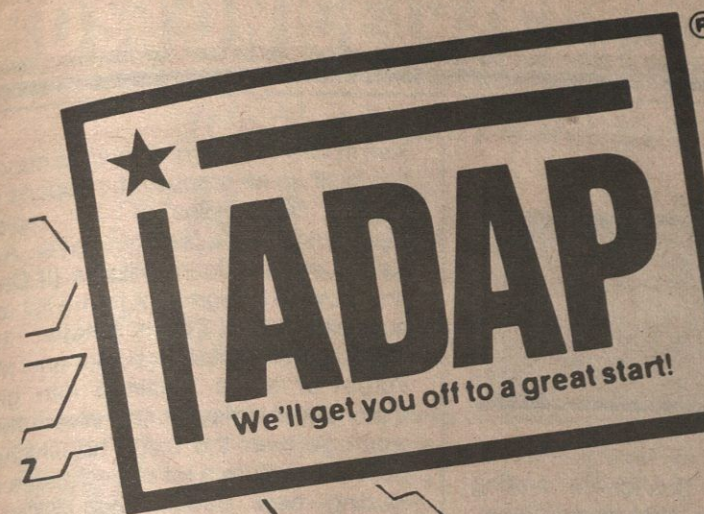
good/production business in Quincy Market in the spring of 1983 but one month later Jones was hired as Celtic Coach and two weeks after that, Robey was traded to Phoenix for Dennis Johnson.

The National Basketball Association took on a decided international look when the Phoenix Suns received permission from the Bulgarian government to sign and keep Georgi Glouchkov, the team's seventh round draft choice in the 1985 draft. Glouchkov joins Akeem Olajuwon and Manute Bol as representatives of foreign countries in the NBA. Next year is final season of the present contract and the revenue the league obtains is expected to double or triple the current \$22 million.

Red Auerbach will be featured speaker at the Boston Globe Book Festival, November 9 at the Boston Sheraton. Red and Joe Fitzgerald recently completed Auerbach's autobiography, a revised edition from the collaboration the two had eight years ago. Fitzgerald is the veteran sports and political writer from the Boston Herald.

The investment partnership, Harbor Sports Development Limited Partnership, which is the likely buyer of the Boston Garden and the Boston Bruins revealed eight local investors in a press conference, October 18. Besides James F. Brennan, investment advisor, others include K. Dun Gifford, president of the Great Bay Company; John V. McManmon, founder and director of First Winthrop Corp.; Judith and Dr. Bruce Allyn Eissner. Judith Eissner is chairwomen-elect of the Skidmore College Board of Trustees and Dr. Eissner is a local child psychiatrist; W. Godfrey Wood, an investment counselor and real estate broker; Richard McCourt, president of John McCourt Company, a Quincy general contracting firm; and David McCourt, his younger brother, president of McCourt Cable Systems.

Red Auerbach appeared on Howard Cosell's Sportsbeat program, October 20. Red also was the originator of the team's official decision to return to black sneakers this season. Ed Badger, Celtic chief scout, coached the touring China team which scrimmaged several NBA teams during the preliminary season. Mat Rodgers, son of Donna and Jimmy Rodgers, continues to lead Walpole high into a November 16 showdown against counterpart Natick High. After Walpole yielded 30 points to Watertown in their opening contest, they since have shut out their ensuing four opponents. Scores: 40-0; 41-0; 65-0; and 47-0.



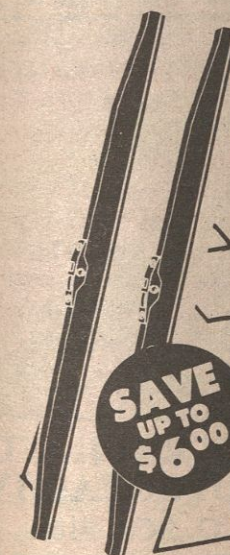
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BOSTON CELTICS PRIDE



Glenn Ordway

One Mans' Opinion

The NBA has spent countless hours researching and devising new methods (college draft, salary cap, right of first refusal free agency) to create league-wide parity. The result: The two best teams last year are the two most improved teams this year. Boston's addition of Bill Walton and Sly Williams give them even more strength in an already over powering frontcourt. Sam Vincent and Jerry Sichting should shore up the Celtics biggest weakness last year-guard depth. The Lakers on the other hand have taken care of their Achilles heal with the acquisition of power forward Maurice Lucas and rookie A.C. Green. Suddenly the guys in purple have developed a rebounding machine. So the temptation is just too hard to pass up. It will be Boston and Los Angeles in the rubber match come June. Now let's see how my crystal ball views the rest of the Eastern Conference.

ATLANTIC DIVISION BOSTON PHILADELPHIA NEW JERSEY WASHINGTON NEW YORK

Health is the only obstacle between the Celtics and another 60 plus win season. Andrew Toney finally has a coach he can talk to again. Matt Goukas may have the same settling effect on the Sixers that K.C. provided here two years ago, but peace may not be enough to overcome old age. Julius Erving and Bobby Jones may be limited to slightly over 20 minutes a game. Which means for Philly to compete with Boston, they will need vintage seasons out of Moses Malone and Charles Barkley. The red carpet is out for yet another new coach in New Jersey. Dave Wohl brings his fast break Laker offense to the Meadowlands. The speed game should suit Jersey's stellar backcourt of Micheal Ray Richardson and Otis Birdsong just fine. Watch for Buck Williams to have a "big" year...his rebounding strength will be the key to Jersey's new offense. Manute Bol's blocking

ability may cause some difficulties for the opposition but a healthy Jeff Ruland will cause them fits. Gene Shue installed a fast break offense last year with the acquisition of Gus Williams. But the running game came to a halt when Ruland went down with a shoulder injury. Ruland, who can be a devastating inside player at both ends is the key to the Washington Bullets fortunes this season. Patrick Ewing has proved during the pre-season that he possesses two big tools...(1) offensive skills and (2) a short fuse...The first one is a very pleasant surprise especially considering the fact that Bernard King may spend a good portion of the season on the sidelines. The second one could be disastrous. NBA coaches may devise a new strategy to stop Patrick: simply insert you back-up center into the game...have him bait Ewing... watch the fuse spark and kiss Mr. Ewing goodbye for the evening. And when he leaves so do the

Knicks chances of victory. Plan to catch Dave De Busschere smiling once again at the NBA game show, "DRAFT LOTTERY."

CENTRAL DIVISION DETROIT MILWAUKEE CLEVELAND CHICAGO INDIANA ATLANTA

For the last two years I've made the Pistons my pre-season choice to win the Central title...make that three. Eventually, I'll get it right. Ricky Mahorn will give Chuck Daly much needed strength off the boards. He'll give Bill Laimbeer a devastating pick for those cute 16 foot jumpers. Rookie Joe Dumars will diminish a weakness on the floor when Isiah Thomas needs a breather. Can Don Nelson pull another rabbit out of the hat? He has three outstanding players in Terry Cummings, Sidney Moncrief and Paul Pressey. Add to that a three man mediocre (I'm being kind) center rotation, no real depth, and a more competitive Eastern Conference and what do you get - TROUBLE. But remember I said that last year...and the year before. And I wasn't alone.

The Cleveland Cavaliers can finally be talked about without the interruption of a chuckle or two. George

Karl in only his second year as coach, has built up an arsenal of weapons up front. Roy Hinson is rapidly developing into a premier player. Add Keith Lee and John Williams (If Cavs are allowed to sign him) to the list and suddenly the Cavs have the ingredients to challenge. But until Mel Turpin or some facsimile can give them steady play in the pivot, they won't go over the top. The Chicago Bulls will feature a lot of new faces including new coach Stan Albeck. Familiar faces Michael Jordan and Orlando Woolridge will provide an explosive offense, but I'll guarantee you that Chicago will give up more points at the center position than any team in the East. The question is: Can Dave Corzine and Jawaan Oldham get enough of those points back at the other end? Kyle Macy gives the Bulls a good consistent outside shot. But that plus is now negated with the loss of Quintin Dailey due to drug problems. Steve Stipanovich has shown in the pre-season that he may be ready to blossom as a legitimate NBA center. Add to that a legitimate outside shooting guard and suddenly the Indiana Pacers could be a playoff bound franchise. Quinn Buckner will be a steady influence on a defensively poor backcourt. Mike Fratello has decided on moving Dominique Wilkins from the frontcourt back to point guard. The results should be a phenomenal scoring year for Wilkins and an equally phenomenal losing record for the Atlanta Hawks. Dominique took more and missed more shots than anyone else in the league last year. With him handling the ball more expect those figures to appreciate. I can hardly wait to read the quotes from his teammates.

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BOSTON CELTICS PRIDE

It's Not Unanimous But...

NBA Writers Pick Celtics and Lakers

With the NBA season having started, every fan is making predictions on how the respective divisional races will go and which team will win it all. How do reporters, who live and breathe the NBA from training camp to the Championship Series, assess the league? Celtics Pride solicited the opinions of newspaper beat writers across the country, asking them how they viewed the Celtics and the rest of the league...

THOMAS BONK, LOS ANGELES TIMES

ON THE CELTICS: "I think they depend on how Walton holds together. They haven't improved themselves much. I'm not a big fan of Jerry Sichting or Sly Williams. They're a little thin, but won the division last year. I think Philadelphia will win the Atlantic."

ON THE LEAGUE: "It's going to be the same teams--Philadelphia, Boston, the Lakers (contending for the championship). There's not another team in the West that can touch LA--they're in another stratosphere."

CHARLIE VINCENT, DETROIT FREE PRESS

ON THE CELTICS: "As, usual, they're not only very good, but very lucky. Walton has been injured all throughout his career, but he'll probably play all 82 games and never get hurt with the Celtics. They're definitely the team to beat."

ON THE LEAGUE: "Philadelphia is on a downswing and needs rebuilding. The Lakers, Houston, Milwaukee, Detroit and Boston are the top five teams in the league."

KEVIN SIMPSON, DENVER POST

ON THE CELTICS: "The acquisition of Walton was key. That's going to make them more versatile in how they can use McHale. It was a terrific acquisition, but Cedric Maxwell was a far better player than he ever got credit for."

ON THE LEAGUE: "I don't think the Lakers will repeat--Boston will win it. The Celtics have improved. You've got to look out for Portland. They started to come on at the end of the season. There was a lot of acrimony

among the players, but that's been put behind them. Sam Bowie is going to be great."

"The Sixers have dropped a half step behind, even on paper."

DAVID KAHN, THE OREGONIAN

ON THE CELTICS: "I think they've certainly strengthened themselves, as long as Walton stays healthy. Sly Williams, Jerry Sichting and Sam Vincent are better players than the three they're replacing. If Walton's healthy and can give them 20-25 minutes a game at forward and center, they'll be tough."

ON THE LEAGUE: "The Lakers should be the favorite to win the title. They didn't stand pat, either. Maurice Lucas and A.C. Green will relieve some of the pressure from Kareem Abdul-Jabbar."

KEVIN KERNAN, NEW YORK POST

ON THE CELTICS: "It all depends on Larry Bird. If he's healthy, I think they'll win the championship. They've made good moves to improve the team. It'll be easier for K.C. Jones. If Bird isn't healthy, they'll still be better than Philadelphia. The Sixers aren't good enough to win the championship, but good enough to go a long way."

ON THE LEAGUE: "I'm going to go with the Celtics winning the title. The Lakers are worth watching, Portland is interesting, and I think the Knicks could cause problems if they get Bernard King back in the second half of the season."

TOM ENLUND, MILWAUKEE JOURNAL

ON THE CELTICS: "They're gonna be awesome if Walton's healthy. If they put together a front line with Walton, Bird, McHale and Parish, they could make a joke of the whole thing. Sichting will help them in the back court--the one area they needed help--if they needed it anywhere. And I've heard a lot of good things about Vincent."

ON THE LEAGUE: "I have to be cautious about the Knicks without King, even if they have Ewing. The Lakers and Boston are in a class by themselves. After that, Philly and Milwaukee will be strong."

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Celtics Open Season on Road: Long Term Effects?

By Bob Schron

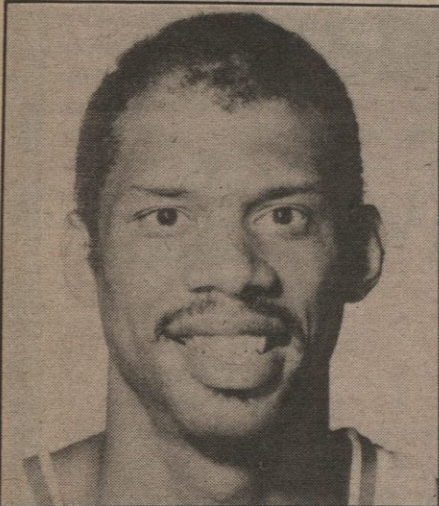
On Friday night, October 25th, the Celtics begin the season at the Meadowlands against the New Jersey Nets. The following evening they travel to Richfield Ohio to tackle last season's playoff foe, the Cleveland Cavaliers.

It is a long season; the team will play back-to-back games on 26 occasions, there will be 41 regular season road games, not including the Celtics' home-away-from home day trips to Hartford, Connecticut.

Early in the Celtics' most recent championship year, veteran M.L. Carr noted the team's need to start the season strongly as they attempted to wrest the title from arch-rival Philadelphia.

"We want to place fear in the opponents of the Celtics," M.L. felt. "We want to make teams respect the Boston Celtics as much as they do the defending champions."

"From the very beginning, we want to draw even with Philadelphia, in the minds of the rest of the players and coaches throughout the NBA."



Abdul-Jabbar: rebounded to MVP.

The Celtics of course went on to win the title that year and if that record is an indication, the 1985-86 schedule is easier. The 1983-84 champions opened with 7 of their first 11 on the road. Yet they apparently succeeded at Carr's "task." The Celtics were 9-2 after road games in Detroit and Cleveland and a mountain swing through Chicago, Denver, and Utah. In 1985-86, Boston plays 7 of their first 12 at Boston Garden.

Research of the NBA champions' records since the 1976-77 season, the first season the American Basketball Association entered the established league on a small scale, reveals that 5 of the 9 titlists began

their seasons with more road games than home games. Portland began with the greatest home/away advantage, 7 of their first 8 in Memorial Coliseum. The Blazers, led by the vintage Bill Walton won all seven but lost at Golden State.

All champions of the nine seasons began their memorable seasons with strong early season records:

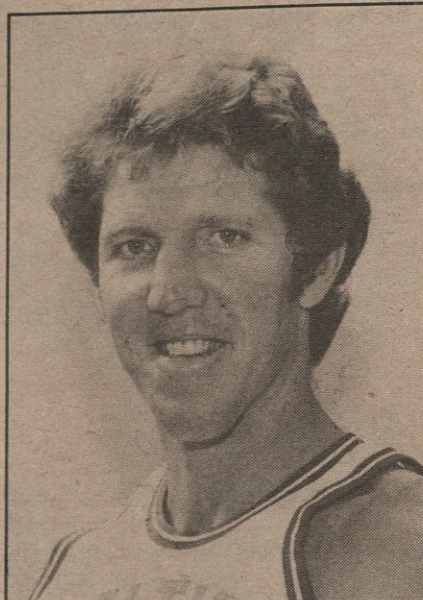
Year Team	Record After 25 Games	Final Record
76-77 Portland	18-7	56-26
77-78 Washington	16-9	44-38
78-79 Seattle	19-6	52-30
79-80 LA Lakers	16-9	60-22
80-81 CELTICS	18-7	62-20
81-82 LA Lakers	18-7	57-25
82-83 Philadelphia	20-5	65-17
83-84 CELTICS	19-6	62-20
84-85 LA Lakers	15-10	62-20

The above is the largest early-season trend which is the background for the early season statistic. The following reveals the opening grouping of games, the home-away advantage, and the team's best streak during the entire regular season.

Year Team	Home/Away	Record
76-77 Portland	7/1	7-1
Best Streak- 10-4 to end year		
77-78 Washington	2/5	3-4
Best Streak- 9-2 in Nov. - Dec.		
78-79 Seattle	5/5	9-1
Best Streak- 10-game winning streak		
79-80 Lakers	6/2	6-2
Best Streak- 22-5 to end year		
80-81 CELTICS	3/7	6-4
Best Streak- 25-1 in mid-year		
81-82 Lakers	5/6	7-4
Best Streak- 16-4 to end year		
82-83 Sixers	9/3	10-2
Best Streak- 27-4 in mid-year		
83-84 CELTICS	4/7	9-2
Best Streak- 19-2 in February		
84-85 Lakers	8/5	8-5
Best Streak- 20-3 to end season		

Statistics don't lie but they do need explanation. For five of the teams a redemption factor was a season-long motivation. Seattle in 1978-79 was rebounding season-long from the previous season's defeat in the finals against the Bullets. At season's end, the Sonics won a rematch. For the Celtics in 1980-81, the Lakers in '81-'82, the Sixers in '82-'83, and the Lakers last season, similar incentives prevailed with one exception.

The Celtics had won the regular title in 1979-80 before the Sixers kayoted them in the playoffs. In 1980-81, Boston rallied from a 3-1 deficit in the Eastern Conference finals against Philadelphia and went on to the title. In '81-'82, the Lakers were angered



Bill Walton: proved himself early.

over a surprising playoff mini-series loss to Moses Malone and the Houston Rockets. They routed the Sixers in the finals, 4-2.

Similar situations prevailed for the Sixers (rebounding and blanking Los Angeles in the finals 4-0, with Moses) in 1982-83 and the Lakers last season. Abdul-Jabbar won the MVP in 1984-85 as the Lakers defeated Boston in 6 games, rebounding from their 1983-84 loss at the hands of Boston. The exception in this first category occurred in 1981-82; the Lakers finished their 6th road game of their first 11 of the regular season schedule. Returning from Utah,

Magic Johnson issued his trade demand, stating he could no longer play for Paul Westhead. The Laker owner, Jerry Buss, turned around and fired Westhead. This was an additional motivating factor to consider when examining that Los Angeles title season.

The other post-merger championships had special circumstances. The Trail Blazers and Celtics of 1983-84 each won for new coaches from the beginning of the season, and had superstars having peak seasons. Jack Ramsey coached the Portland team and Bill Walton proved his extraordinary abilities at the professional level that year. K.C. Jones was in his 1st season as Celtic coach and Larry Bird won his regular and playoff Most Valuable Player honors.

Remaining are polar champions, at least in this analysis. Washington found itself late---chemistry---and flurried through the playoffs, its most important playoff win a surprising upset over Julius Erving, George McGinnis, Lloyd Free, and the Philadelphia 76ers. The 1979-80 Lakers received Abdul-Jabbar's best season, Magic Johnson's incredibly enthusiastic rookie play, the addition of Michael Cooper, and new energies infused by the new ownership of Jerry Buss.

The Celtics also won in Don Gaston's, Alan Cohen's, and Paul Dupee's first season of ownership, in 1983-84, noted repeatedly throughout that year by K.C. Jones. So perhaps the ownership factor needs considerably closer examination in the future.

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NBA Preview, from page 9

The Clippers anticipate Benoit Benjamin, the third pick in the draft, to be a franchise builder at center. If Benjamin comes through, if Maxwell regains his old form and if ex-Laker Jamaal Wilkes can contribute, LA would be deep at forward.

And that's not even considering Derek Smith and Marques Johnson. Smith averaged 22.1 points, Johnson 16.4.

However, all those guys are small forwards. Michael Cage, a first-round pick last year, didn't do much as a rookie and needs to get tougher.

Swingman Junior Bridgeman (13.9), a career sixth man, did well for the Clippers and will be first off the bench again. Center James Donaldson (11.3, 8.1 rebounds) should be pushed into a reserve role with Benjamin around.

Norm Nixon (17.2), another ex-Laker and Lancaster Gordon will be the main guards, along with Bridgeman.

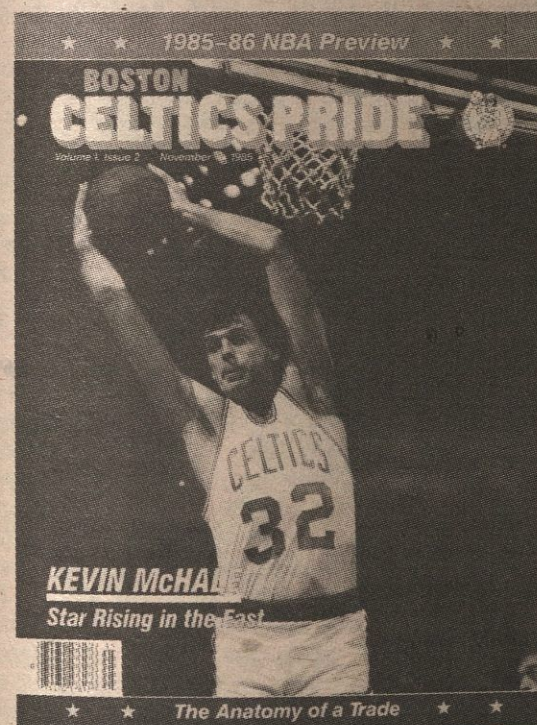
SEATTLE SUPERSONICS - New Coach Bernie Bickerstaff inherits a team that finished 31-51 last year and failed to make the playoffs.

However, the makings of a playoff team are there.

Bickerstaff's first order of business will be figuring out how to instill a soupcon of consistency in Tom Chambers. The forward averaged 21.5 points and 7.2 rebounds, but can look like All-World one game and All-Junior Varsity the next.

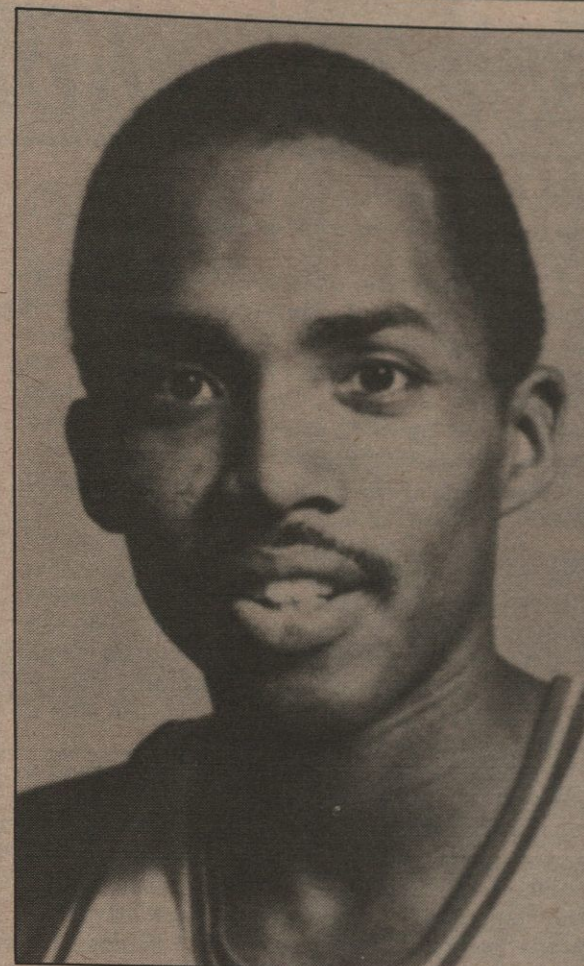
Defensive ace Danny Vranes and veteran center Jack Sikma (18.5, 10.6) were the other front line starters last year. But Vranes could be displaced by top pick Xavier McDaniel, the first player ever to lead the NCAA Division I in scoring and rebounding the same season (last year). Tim McCormick and Frank Brickowski will also see time up front.

Ex-Celtic Gerald Henderson, Ricky Sobers, Al Wood and Jon Sundvold are the guards. Bickerstaff should be able to get decent production out of that quartet.



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Gerald Henderson: ready for big year.

PHOENIX SUNS - The Suns skidded to a 36-46 record, which forced Coach John MacLeod to make some changes. First, he unloaded the scowling Maurice Lucas to the Lakers. He then proclaimed the Suns would go to more of a running game this year.

For that play to work, the Suns will need a

healthy Walter Davis. The smooth guard played just 23-games because of knee and leg injuries a season ago. Phoenix is lost without him.

Assuming Davis bounces back, Jay Humphries and the speedy Rod Humphries will fight for the other guard spot. Kyle Macy has been dispatched to Chicago.

James Edwards is a cinch starter at center, though second-round pick Nick Vanos is around. Also available is ex-Celtic Rick Robey, who played in a mere four games because of heel surgery.

The Suns used their first round draft choice to take Ed Pinckney, a forward from Villanova. He should play a lot right away. The Suns best forward is 6-10 high-flier Larry Nance (19.9, 8.8 rebounds). Another key man is veteran Alvan Adams (14.7, 6.1), who will probably play forward and center.

GOLDEN STATE WARRIORS - After a year-long exile in Italy, center Joe Barry Carroll is back in Oakland. The Milwaukee Bucks tendered the 7-footer a hefty offer sheet, but the Warriors matched it and regained his services.

"Getting J.B. back gives us a legitimate center," Coach John Bach says. "The team he's returning to is better than the one he left."

Bach, a former Celtic player, feels that way because Golden State drafted St. John's guard Chris Mullin and traded for Greg Ballard, a proven forward. Both should help the Warriors.

Sleepy Floyd (19.5, 5.0 assists) and Lester Conner were first line guards a year ago, but conner should be dropped down to the third spot with Mullin's arrival.

Purvis Short (28.0) and rebounding animal Larry Smith are a good forward combine. But...

"Smith has got to get more defensive rebounds and Purvis will have to do more on the boards," Bach says.

The Warriors, who won just 24 games last season, will have to do better than that to keep Bach happy.

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NBA Notebook

By Terry Lyons

The National Basketball Association's 40th season is about to tip-off and it promises to create a lot of excitement all across the land. All clubs have completed their preseason schedules and are making final preparations for the new season. Let's take a division-by-division look at the league to see how the teams might fare.

ATLANTIC

Boston - The Celtics refused to stand pat during the offseason and strengthened their club in two key areas. First, depth in the pivot was acquired when the club traded for Bill Walton. Next, rookie guard Sam Vincent showed he'll be able to make immediate contributions in the backcourt. Those factors make the Celtics the team to beat in the Atlantic.

Philadelphia - Julius Erving worked out all summer long to prepare for another run at the NBA Finals. His leadership along with the all-star cast of Moses Malone, Andrew Toney, Mo Cheeks and the ever-amazing Charles Barkley make the Sixers top contenders. Look for a very tight battle for the Atlantic title. First year head coach Matt Guokas will answer the test.

New Jersey - Staying healthy is the key to a successful season in the Meadowlands. Last season, the Nets were victims of injuries to Darryl Dawkins, Albert King, Otis Birdsong and Mike O'Koren. This year, the club will utilize a new system brought in by first-year head coach Dave Wohl which stresses the running game. Micheal Ray Richardson will have the opportunity to lead the Nets' attack. Can he stand up to the test?

Washington - For the Bullets to surprise their critics and become quite a challenge during the upcoming season. Gus Williams has had a full year to adjust to his Washington teammates and Jeff Ruland hopes to play an injury-free season. Rookie forward Kenny Green will add some depth and who knows what 7-foot-7 Manute Bol might do when he goes up against the NBA's big men.

New York - All along, Patrick Ewing said he wasn't a saviour. The prize of the 1985 Draft still has a lot to learn and his supporting cast in New York is not what NBA champions are made of. Coach Hubie Brown will make the best of the talent he has to work with, but until Bernard King returns to the Knickerbocker lineup, the jury is out in New York.

CENTRAL

Milwaukee - It won't be any different this year. Coach Don Nelson will keep his club ahead in the Central relying on strong performances from Sid Moncrief and Terry Cummings. Paul Pressey will be a legitimate all-star performer this season and rookie Jerry Reynolds will see time at forward. Alton Lister will still lack the tools in the middle which leaves the Bucks in need against Boston and Philly.

Detroit - Isiah, Kelly and Company were another team hit hard by injuries a year ago. They will look to unseat the Bucks as divisional champs but will need contributions from newcomer Rick Mahorn who replaces veteran Dan Roundfield. Guard Joe Dumars, the Pistons' No. 1 pick, will add depth and scoring in the backcourt.

Cleveland - The Cavs finished the 1985 season strong and gave the Celtics all they could handle in the first round of the NBA Playoffs. The young club gained confidence and experience last season and should pick up where it left off. Roy

Hinson promises to make a bid as an NBA all-star and rookie Keith Lee will share time at the big forward position.

Chicago - The Bulls will play more comfortable under new coach Stan Albeck but the club is still not ready to win any division titles. Rookie Michael Jordan and forward Orlando Woolridge will pull most of the load. Kyle Macy should help distribute the ball more evenly while Quintin Dailey rounds out the scoring punch from a reserve role. The Bulls' pivotmen will determine how far the club will go.

Atlanta - Third-year coach Mike Fratello will have his work cut out as the season begins. Promising point guard Glenn Rivers is sidelined and superstar forward Dominique Wilkins is giving it a try at shooting guard. Otherwise, the Hawks shape up as a youthful contender for a possible playoff berth. Jon Koncak could flourish in the NBA after a promising collegiate career at SMU.

Indiana - Rookie Wayman Tisdale missed a large part of preseason but should quickly become one of the NBA's most entertaining performers. The Pacers, however, will need immediate contributions from their young backcourtmen if they plan to make a run at the playoffs. Terence Stansbury will get his chance while Vern Fleming looks to improve his shooting skills. Steve Stipanovich, Herb Williams and Clark Kellogg are all suitable frontcourtmen.

Star Wars, NBA Style are here again!

MIDWEST

Houston - Although the Rockets backcourt has a ways to go before it can be considered a threat, the frontcourt of Akeem Olajuwon, Ralph Sampson and Rodney McCray should be enough to make the club winners in the Midwest Division. Steve Harris, the team's No. 1 draft choice, will contribute immediately at the big guard spot. The only drawback could be former Celtics Coach Bill Fitch's motivating tactics which are wearing thin on many of the Rockets, including Sampson.

Dallas - The Mavs improved their frontcourt, using three No. 1 draft choices to select forward Dettlef Schremf and centers Bill Wennington and Uwe Blab. Although the rookies will lack experience, they will provide size and depth on a club which was just a player or two away last season. Mark Aguirre and Rolando Blackman will continue to lead the way while Sam Perkins should emerge as a top NBA prospect. The Mavs should challenge for the division crown.

Denver - How much did Dan Issel mean to the Nuggets? Enough to drop them from division winners to third place finishers at best. The backbone of Alex English and Calvin Natt will keep the Nuggets in many games while Coach Doug Moe's efforts will win a number of games as well. Rookie Blair Rasmussen will need time before he can provide help up front. Guards Lafayette Lever, Elston Turner and T.R. Dunn hold down the backcourt effectively.

Utah - Guard Darrell Griffith will be out for the first half of the season which leaves the Jazz short of scoring punch. Adrian Dantley will continue to

carry the load offensively while Mark Eaton holds down the defensive end of the court. Karl Malone will help out on the boards. If the Jazz remain respectable in the opening month of play, they should be in the running.

San Antonio - The test of time has been given to the Spurs and the upcoming season will project the answer. George Gervin and Artis Gilmore are not the players they once were, leaving Coach Cotton Fitzsimmons the task of rebuilding with youngsters like Alvin Robertson and top draft choice Alfredrick Hughes. The Spurs should stay respectable throughout the season but don't expect a division title in San Antonio in 1986.

Sacramento - There will be plenty of excitement as the Kings open up in their new home city. The club has a strong newcomer in rookie center Joe Kleine. His contribution, along with the ever-consistent efforts of guard Larry Drew and forward Eddie Johnson, will make the Kings possible playoff contenders.

PACIFIC

Los Angeles - Kareem Abdul-Jabbar recently agreed to a contract extension through the 1986-87 season leaving no reason to believe the Lakers will be anything less than division champs. The Big Fella, Magic Johnson, James Worthy, Byron Scott and the rest of the Lakers will fight the curse of repeating as NBA champs. Coach Pat Riley will only hope everyone stays healthy.

Portland - Second-year center Sam Bowie worked very hard during the offseason and can be the factor the Blazers need to challenge LA. If Kiki Vandeweghe can further adjust to the role Coach Jack Ramsay has carved for him, the Blazers could surprise the mighty Lakers. Besides Bowie and Vandeweghe, Portland has a solid group of veterans all capable of all-star seasons. Most effective should be Clyde Drexler, the high-flying forward who's proved to be a top scorer in the league.

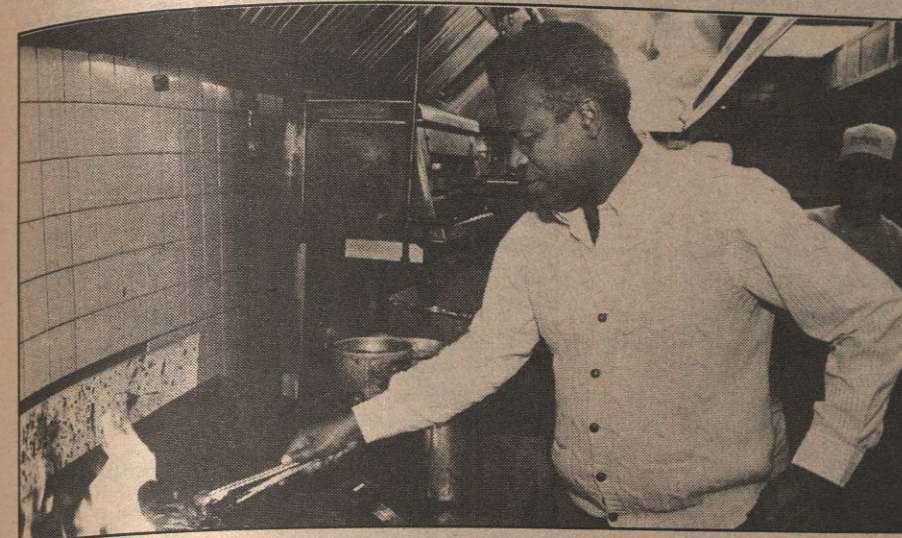
Seattle - New head coach Bernie Bickerstaff will utilize the talent of Jack Sikma and rookie Xavier McDaniel to turn the Sonics into playoff contenders after a 31-51 season of a year ago. Problems in the backcourt, where Gerald Henderson and All Wood hold down the beat, could be the clubs' downfall.

Golden State - Joe Barry Carroll will be back in the middle for the Warriors and No. 1 draft choice Chris Mullin is close to signing. Mullin missed the entire training camp and preseason, so it could take time for him to adjust to the NBA style. His outside shooting ability will still have its impact. Otherwise, the Warriors are strong upfront with high-scoring Purvis Short, steady Greg Ballard and power forward Larry Smith. Sleepy Floyd capably handles the point guard spot.

LA Clippers - New additions include former Celtic Cedric Maxwell and center Benoit Benjamin, the second selection in last June's NBA Draft. Coach Don Chaney will try to mold the team into the more cohesive group than last year. Veterans Marques Johnson and Junior Bridgeman will have to contribute, especially since the club will be without guard Norm Nixon who still awaits an offer sheet.

Phoenix Suns - Forward Larry Nance has been out of camp seeking a new contract and guard Walter Davis is hoping to bounce back from an injury-riddled season of 1985. With those problems facing the Suns, the upcoming season looks to be a long one. Rookie Ed Pinckney might lend some help but overall, the Suns are overmatched in the Pacific.

K.C. Takes His "Family" to Dinner



K.C. has always "cooked", on and off the court.

On the evening of Monday, October 21st, the entire Celtics organization -- players, coaches and staff -- came together in a fashion typical of the sense of family that is so much a part of the Celtics mystique. The occasion this time was the opening of a restaurant, but this was not just the run-of-the-mill dining establishment.

The restaurant -- Tony Roma's on Route 9 in Framingham, Mass. -- is co-owned by two of the most legendary participants on the Boston sports scene: K.C. Jones of the Boston Celtics and Bobby Orr of the Bruins. Specializing in ribs of all kinds but featuring an extensive menu, the "place for ribs" figures to be a big hit with suburban Boston.



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- 1 Who was the first Celtics T.V. announcer?
- 2 As head coach of the Celtics, what was Red Auerbach's fourth quarter tradition if his team was winning?
- 3 Which Celtic slept on a bench in the Boston Commons after winning the 1974 NBA Championship?
- 4 In 1980 two Celtics retired from basketball -- a center and a guard. The center was Dave Cowens. Who was the guard?
- 5 Who said "I could take 4 guys off the street in Petersburg (Virginia) and beat them (the Celtics)"?
- 6 Who said, "I'm going to look awfully silly if he stuffs the ball and me through the hoop!"

- 1 Les Smith
- 2 Light a cigar
- 3 Dave Cowens
- 4 Pete Maravich
- 5 Moses Malone
- 6 Bill Russell about Wilt Chamberlain



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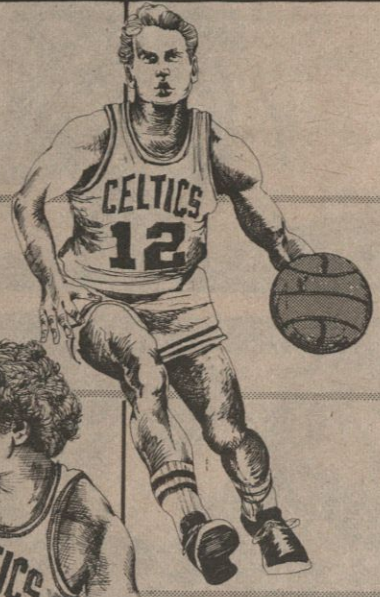
NOVEMBER

HOME AND AWAY SCHEDULE

Home games

BOSTON CELTICS



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Atlanta Hawks 7:30 WRKO RADIO SPORTS CHANNEL	2 WASHINGTON BULLETS 7:30 WRKO RADIO WLVI-TV56
3 	4 		6	7	8 PHOENIX SUNS 7:30 WRKO RADIO SPORTS CHANNEL	9 DETROIT PISTONS 7:30 WRKO RADIO WLVI-TV56
17			13 INDIANA PACERS 7:30 WRKO RADIO SPORTS CHANNEL	14	15 WASHINGTON BULLETS 7:30 WRKO RADIO SPORTS CHANNEL	16 INDIANA PACERS 7:30 WRKO RADIO WLVI-TV56
		19	20 UTAH JAZZ 7:30 WRKO RADIO SPORTS CHANNEL	21	22 PHILADELPHIA 76ers 7:30 WRKO RADIO SPORTS CHANNEL	23 NEW YORK KNICKS 7:30 WRKO RADIO WLVI-TV56
24	25	26 PHILADELPHIA 76ers 8:00 WRKO RADIO WLVI-TV56	27 DETROIT PISTONS 7:30 WRKO RADIO SPORTS CHANNEL	28	29 NEW YORK KNICKS 8:00 WRKO RADIO SPORTS CHANNEL	30 Atlanta Hawks 7:30 WRKO RADIO WLVI-TV56

The Rivalry Is Still There... Even In Pre Season Games

Usually NBA preseason games are mundane exercises, where coaches do a lot of experiments and try to find out who's what.

But try telling the Celtics and Lakers that.

Boston and Los Angeles scheduled a series of exhibition matches, all of which had the intensity of an early-round playoff game--at least. The two teams first got together at Providence, October 6, and have been whaling at each other ever since. Two weeks later, the Celts and Lakers combined for eight technical fouls and 72 personals.

However, that was nothing compared to what transpired at the Forum on October 19. The Larry Holmes-Michael Spinks bout should've had this much action.

The Celtics won the war, 124-116, and there were more than a few battles along the way, too. Laker ruffian Maurice Lucas and Boston center Robert Parish slugged it out, and incident which began when they were jousting each other for position

under the basket. Television replays showed Lucas elbowing Parish on the chin and Parish responded by throwing a punch at the Laker.

The brawl carried over the press row. A table collapsed when Lucas and Parish landed on it. Then several players jumped into the fray. Dennis Johnson hurt his knee and Michael Cooper of the Lakers cut his mouth during the fracas. Parish, Lucas and Celtic forward Sly Williams were ejected.

"There's a lot of water, that's gone under the bridge over the past two years," Laker Coach Pat Riley says. "There's a lot of respect between the two teams, but I also think there's bad blood. No wonder things have escalated."

Lucas, of course, is one of the league's chief rabble-rousers. If the NBA ever kept such a statistic, he'd easily lead the loop in penalty minutes. Lucas is one of those whom you love if he's on your team, and despise if he isn't. The Lakers added him to the roster to make them a tougher team.



Abdul-Jabbar and Parish: in touch with the rivalry.

"He's an intimidator," Laker forward Kurt Rambis says. "We've needed one of those."

Says center Kareem Abdul-Jabbar: "Luke's not a cheap-shot artist. "But if you go against him, you know you're going to get a hip or a

shoulder or an elbow. He doesn't go for the throat or the head. Mostly, he's a tremendous distraction. You've got to pay attention to Luke."

And pay attention to this: The Lakers invade Boston Garden January 22. It won't be boring.

Celtics Classics

Russell was the Key in 1956-57

The First Championship May Have Been The Sweetest



What great memories this team offers.

The Celtics weren't always a dominant force in the NBA. In fact, the franchise struggled for much of the first decade of its existence. The hard times ended when Boston won its first championship in 1956-57.

Boston compiled a decent 39-33 record in the previous season, but was quickly knocked out in the first round of the playoffs. Red Auerback felt the team was just a player away from being championship material.

That player turned out to be USF center Bill Russell.

Russell became chattel of the green and whites on April 20, 1956. And took some doing by Auerback to get him. First, Auerbach traded Ed Macauley and Cliff Hagan to the St. Louis Hawks for the Hawks' first-round pick, second overall in the draft.

Then, Auerbach worked it so that the Rochester Royals, who had the first choice, would bypass Russell. That Russell didn't want to go to Rochester and asked for an exorbitant salary also worked in the Celtics favor.

And so Russell became a Celtic. However, he wasn't ready for immediate delivery. Russell was on the Olympic team and didn't play his first game until December 22 -- against St. Louis, ironically enough. Boston won, 95-93. Russell had 6 points and 16 rebounds in 21 minutes.

The Celtics had been playing well before Russell joined the team, and took off with him on the roster. They ended the season with a 44-28 record, the best in the league. Russell had much to do with that haughty mark.

"I've never seen anyone do what Bill did," Auerbach said at the time. "He came in at mid-season with no experience, no training, knowing nothing about the league and took over."

Boston had no trouble with the Syracuse Nationals in the opening round of the playoffs, knocking the Nats out in three straight.

Only the St. Louis Hawks stood between the Celtics and their first NBA title. Boston had beaten St. Louis in seven of nine regular season games, but the Hawks had plenty of talent. Bob Pettit, Macauley, Slater Martin, Jack McMahon and Charlie Share were all good players.

The opener was a wild affair. Pettit scored 37 points, as the visiting Hawks edged the Celts, 125-123. But Boston wiped out St. Louis by a 119-99 count the next day to tie the series at a game apiece.

After a week lay-off, the action shifted to St. Louis. The Hawks came away with another two-point decision, 100-98. Game four went to Boston, 123-118. The Celtics took a 3-2 lead with a 124-109 triumph in the fifth game.

Almost unbelievably, St. Louis captured another two-point win, 102-100. That set up a seventh and deciding game at Boston Garden.

Bob Cousy and Bill Sharman combined to shoot, an arctic 5 of 40 from the field, but the Celtics nevertheless prevailed, 125-123, in double overtime. Tom Heinsohn had 37 points and 23 rebounds before fouling out; Russell had 19 points, 32 boards and five blocked shots.

Frank Ramsey's basket put the Celtics ahead late in the second overtime, and Jim Loscutoff's free throw made the score 125-123 with a second left.

The Hawks still had a chance. Alex Hannum

fired a pass the length of the floor off the backboard. The ball bounced to Pettit, who threw up a desperation shot. It didn't go in, and the Celtics had their first-ever NBA title.

"We've been trying to win the title for seven

years," Cousy said after the game. "We've finally done it. People are calling us great, but now we've got to do it again."

Boston did. Fourteen more times. And counting.

1985 Boston Celtics Final Pre-Season Stats

Record: (4-4)

Name	G-GS	Min	Avg	FIELD GOALS			FREE THROWS			REBOUNDS			ASSISTS			MISCELLANEOUS			POINTS		
				FGM	FGA	Pct.	FTM	FTA	Pct.	Off	Def	Total	Avg.	St	To	Bl	Pts.	Avg.	Hi		
Ainge	8-7	161	20.1	28	60	.467	9	12	.750	5	10	15	2.0	34	4.3	25-1	4	15	1	86	8.3
Battle	1-0	12	12.0	1	5	.200														2	2.0
Bird	5-5	93	18.6	22	47	.468	12	14	.857	5	22	27	5.4	11	2.2	8-0	4	12	3	59	11.8
Carlisle	8-0	99	12.4	14	29	.483	6	10	.600	6	7	13	1.6	10	1.3	14-0	3	8	0	34	4.3
Clerk	5-1	50	10.0	15	25	.600	5	9	.556	4	5	9	1.8	4	0.8	4-0	2	11	1	35	7.0
Dupree	1-0	1	1.0																		
Johnson	8-7	184	23.0	38	76	.487	11	13	.846	4	8	12	1.5	24	3.0	14-0	10	9	2	88	11.0
Kite	7-1	98	14.0	3	9	.333	5	9	.556	6	16	22	3.1	2	0.3	20-0	5	4	6	11	1.6
Lamb	1-0	5	5.0	0	2	.000				0	1	1	1.0	1	0.0						
McHale	8-7	252	31.5	65	114	.570	48	55	.836	27	36	63	7.9	11	1.4	24-0	5	24	10	175	22.0
Mitchell	5-0	17	3.4	3	7	.429	0	1	.000	0	1	1	0.2	1	0.2	3-0	0	0	0	6	1.2
Parish	8-7	155	19.4	26	58	.464	17	25	.680	13	42	55	6.9	6	0.8	12-0	4	18	6	69	8.6
Sicking	8-1	145	18.1	15	32	.469	6	8	.750	0	10	10	1.3	22	2.8	10-0	5	7	1	36	4.5
Thurmond	6-1	71	11.8	15	25	.600	10	13	.769	1	2	3	0.5	5	0.8	8-0	4	4	0	40	6.7
Vincent	8-0	106	13.3	14	34	.412	20	25	.800	2	11	13	1.6	16	2.0	19-1	6	8	2	48	6.0
Walton	8-1	171	21.4	26	57	.456	23	33	.697	13	48	61	7.6	24	3.0	29-1	4	8	1	70	8.8
Wedman	8-2	175	21.9	37	85	.435	7	8	.875	9	14	23	2.9	13	1.6	16-0	4	8	1	81	10.1
Williams, R.	1-0	8	8.0	2	5	.400	1	4	.250	2	1	3	0.3	4	0.0	0-0	2	0	0	5	5.0
Williams, S.	7-0	117	16.7	23	48	.500	12	21	.571	6	12	18	2.6	18	2.6	19-0	7	11	1	59	8.4
Celtics	8			347	718	.485	190	260	.731	104	246	350	43.8	206	25.8	230-3	72	162	50	890	111.3
Opponents	8			335	701	.478	215	293	.734	98	253	351	43.9	196	24.5	242-4	90	172	42	895	111.9

Three-Point Field Goals: CELTICS TOTALS: Ainge 1-3 (.333)...Bird 3-6 (.500)...Carlisle 0-3 (.000)...Johnson 1-2 (.500) Vincent 0-1 (.000)...Wedman 0-4 (.000)...Williams, Sly 1-3 (.333)...TEAM 6-22 (.273). OPPONENTS: 10-26 (.385).

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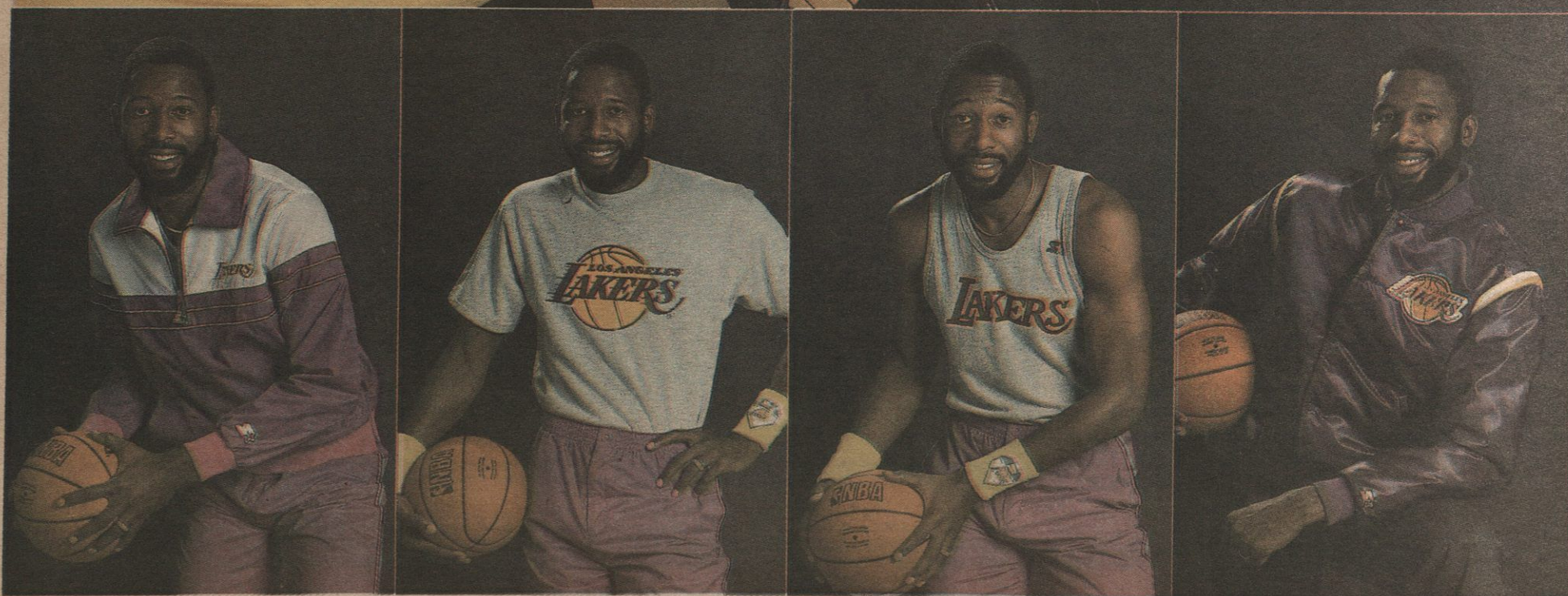
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BOSTON CELTICS PRIDE

Celtics Greats — Past and Present

Tiny Archibald

For Celtics fans, there will be a familiar face on the University of Georgia basketball team's bench this season—Nate "Tiny" Archibald. Archibald, who ended his 14-year NBA career with the Milwaukee Bucks two years ago, made his mark with the old Cincinnati Royal/Kansas City Kings. He led the NBA in scoring and assists in 1972-73, the only player in history ever to do so. That's one standard which might last forever.

Archibald also spent five years with the Celtics (1978-79 to 1982-83). He helped lead Boston to a championship in 1981 and gave the Celtics a quality point guard during his tenure in Beantown.

Archibald has recently been named an assistant coach at Georgia, where he will assist Hugh Durham. It seems only natural for Archibald to wind up in the coaching profession, considering his interest in helping young people.

Celtic President Red Auerbach played a large role in Archibald landing this job. It was Auerbach who suggested Archibald try college coaching and referred him to Durham. Tiny had tried to break into the NBA coaching ranks, but that didn't work out.

"So I felt my next option was a good college program," Archibald says. "It's a big program and Georgia plays a major college schedule."

Georgia is a member of the Southeastern Conference, where basketball is taken seriously. And Archibald figured he'll have a major impact on the Bulldogs' hoop program.

"My input here will be tremendous," Archibald says. "You're still a big name, even though you're not playing. People respect me for what I did on and off the court."

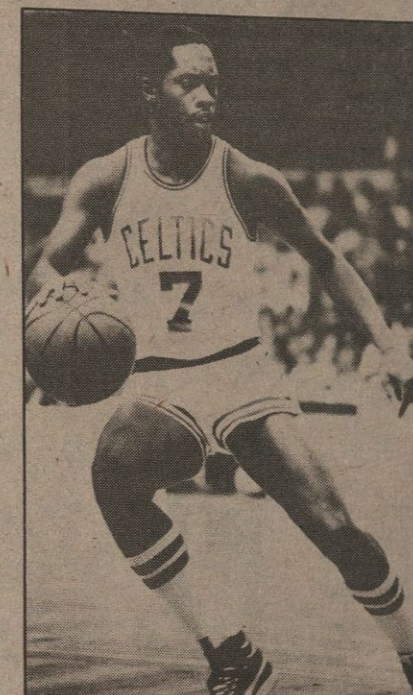
Since Archibald is a well-known figure in basketball circles, he should be a big help in Georgia's recruiting.

"My name is a big selling point," Archibald says. "But I have more to offer than my name."

Although the SEC isn't the NBA, Archibald feels college coaching has plenty to offer him.

"I kind of miss it (the NBA)—I don't think you have to prepare as much (in college)," Archibald says. "I think this will help me in the long run. I don't want anybody to give me anything. I want to work for it."

Archibald almost wound up in someone's training camp this fall. He says a couple of NBA teams contacted him, but he would have had to



Tiny had a great career for Celts.



Look for Archibald to be back in the NBA as a coach.

come to camp on a make-good basis. He didn't find that idea too enticing.

"I have a lot of pride," Archibald says. "I wouldn't want to go to camp and be told I'm too slow, too old or the game has passed me by. I didn't feel it would be in my best judgment. I played 14 years—one more wouldn't have helped."

"I didn't want to go through that (the prospect of having to fight for a spot on a roster). Give me the real deal or don't give me a deal at all."

The 37-year-old Archibald says playing for the Celtics was a good deal.

"the opportunities for anybody are slim to become a pro coach"

"I had a great career for Boston," Archibald says. "The best coached teams, the best organized and the

best prepared were Boston and Milwaukee. Don Nelson was the coach at Milwaukee and he was a Boston player. He emulated their style."

Archibald would like to emulate Nelson and become a head coach in the NBA some day. For now, though, Archibald is happy where he is.

"The opportunities for anybody are slim to become a pro coach," Archibald says. "If the opportunity comes up, I'd take it."

CELTICS FANS!

Here is what's planned for the Celtics' home games over the first two months of the 1985-86 season:

DAY	DATE	OPPONENT	ANTHEM	PRE-GAME/ HALFTIME	PROMOTION
Wed.	Oct. 30	vs. Milwaukee	Freddie Tagg	Children's Hospital Check Presentation	Schedule Giveaway
Fri.	Nov. 1	vs. Atlanta	The Winikers	Double Dutch	
Fri.	Nov. 8	vs. Phoenix	Guy Rotondo		
Wed.	Nov. 13	vs. Indiana	Freddie Tagg	Larry Bird - Schick Pivotal Player 1984	
Fri.	Nov. 15	vs. Washington	Jim Geary		
Wed.	Nov. 20	vs. Utah	The Winikers	Cerebral Palsy Check Presentation	
Fri.	Nov. 22	vs. Philadelphia	The Winikers		Bud Lite Calendar Giveaway
Wed.	Nov. 27	vs. Detroit	Freddie Tagg		
Fri.	Nov. 29	vs. New York	Guy Rotondo	Pre-Game - Midas Player of the Month	
Fri.	Dec. 6	vs. Portland	Guy Rotondo	Red Auerbach Bust Presentation	Burger King Calendar Giveaway
Tue.	Dec. 10	vs. Atlanta (Hfd.)	Lynn Brown		
Wed.	Dec. 11	vs. Sacramento	The Winikers		Schick Travel Kit Giveaway
Sun.	Dec. 15	vs. Chicago	The Winikers		Miller Larry Bird Poster Giveaway
Wed.	Dec. 18	vs. Dallas	Guy Rotondo		

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